

THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 96, Vol. IV.

Saturday, October 29, 1864.

{ Price Fourpence;
{ Stamped, Fivepence.

PARIS.—AGENT FOR THE READER.
MR. J. ROTHSCHILD, Rue de Buci, 14, who will receive Subscriptions and forward Books intended for Review.

GERMANY.—Mr. F. A. BROCKHAUS,
Leipzig, having been appointed Agent for Leipzig and Northern Germany, it is requested that intending Subscribers will send their names to him. Books for Review may also be forwarded to him for enclosure in his Weekly Parcel.

PRUSSIA.—Messrs. ASHER & CO.,
Berlin Agents for THE READER, will receive the names of Subscribers, and take charge of Books intended for Review

NORTH OF EUROPE.—Messrs. ONCKEN,
10, grosser Barstrasse, Hamburg, will supply THE READER, receive Books intended for Review, and forward Communications for the Editor.

INDIA: MADRAS.—Messrs. GANTZ
Brothers, 175, Mount Road, Madras, will register names of Subscriber on account of THE READER. Annual Subscription, including postage, 13 rupees.

COMPARATIVE GRAMMAR.—THE
INTRODUCTORY LECTURE (open to the Public) will be delivered by T. HEWITT KEY, M.A., F.R.S., at UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, on MONDAY, November 14th, at 4 p.m. precisely. Subject:—"The Verbs signifying 'to be' in the Indo-European family: their One Origin and Primitive Meaning."

ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN
RAILWAY COMPANY.

Offices—2, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.
ISSUE OF SECOND MORTGAGE BONDS
(Ohio Division).
Payable in London. 4,000,000 dols. Due in 1883.
Coupons due 1st January and 1st July.

Secured by a Registered Mortgage on the Income and all Corporate Rights, Privileges, Lands, Franchises, Plant, and Property of the Ohio Division of the Railway.

The Bonds are redeemable at par in New York, or in London at 4s. 6d. per dollar, and are transferable without stamp or endorsement; Interest Coupons are attached to the Bonds, payable semi-annually, at the Consolidated Bank in London, at the fixed rate of 4s. to the dollar. The Bonds will be issued at 66, at which rate Bonds of 1000 dollars will cost £148. 10s., carrying Coupons due Jan. 1, 1865.

The Coupons represent £14 per annum on each Bond of 1000 dollars, or 94 per cent. interest on price of issue.

The several divisions of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway have been consolidated under the government of James Robb, Esq., whose reputation as a banker and railway administrator is established in Europe as well as in America. Mr. Robb, as president of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway, joins the direction of the Erie and other lines forming the through route between New York and St. Louis, so as to secure unity of action.

The price of issue has been fixed at 66.

The terms of issue are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	dols.
5 per cent. on application, being	11	5	0	per Bond of 1000
10 " " on allotment	22	10	0	"
15 " " 19th November	33	15	0	"
15 " " 19th December	33	15	0	"
21 " " 19th January	47	5	0	less 47 Coupon due 1st Jan.
	£148	10	0	

Subscribers have the option of paying the instalments in advance, and will be allowed a discount of 9 per cent. per annum on such pre-payments.

After allotment, scrip certificates will be issued to "bearer." These certificates will be exchanged for bonds to "bearer" on payment of the final instalment.

Forms of Application may be obtained at the Consolidated Bank; or at the Offices of the Company, No. 2, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.; or of

E. F. SATTERTHWAITE, Broker,
38, Throgmorton Street, London, E.C.
London, Oct. 12, 1864.

ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN
RAILWAY.

ISSUE OF SECOND MORTGAGE BONDS, payable in London.—NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN, that NO APPLICATION for these BONDS will be received after the 31st instant.
By Order.

No. 2, Old Broad Street, Oct. 21, 1864.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING
COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Every description of Banking Business conducted with South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, and also by Agency with New Zealand, upon current terms with the respective Colonies.

WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.
London, 54, Old Broad Street, E.C.

HERCULES FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE
COMPANY (Limited), 94, CANNON STREET, LONDON E.C.—NON-TARIFF FIRE INSURANCE, NEW PLAN OF ASSURING SECOND-CLASS LIVES. See Prospectus.

Agents are required on liberal terms.
SAMUEL J. SHRUBB, Manager and Secretary.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

PUBLIC READING and SPEAKING. CHARLES FURTADO, Esq., will commence his Course by an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE on RHETORICAL DELIVERY, on MONDAY next, 31st inst., at Four o'clock.

Fee for the Course, £2. 2s., for Students free to the College; for others, £2. 7s.

The Lessons will be practical, given in Classes of Ten Pupils, and of one hour's duration.

Admission to the Introductory Lecture free, for Ladies as well as Gentlemen.

JOHN ROBERT SEELEY, M.A.,
Dean of the Faculty of Arts.
CHAS. C. ATKINSON,
Secretary to the Council.
Oct. 25th, 1864.

ROYAL SCHOOL OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE AND MARINE ENGINEERING.

The Lords of the Committee of Council on Education have determined, after communication with the Admiralty and the Institute of Naval Architects, to open at South Kensington a School of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering.

The School is for the instruction not only of Admiralty pupils from the Royal Dockyards and officers of the Royal Navy, but also for the use of Naval Architects and Shipbuilders in wood and iron, Marine Engineers, Foremen of Works, Shipwrights, and the public generally.

The Admiralty have deposited their Collection of Naval Models at the South Kensington Museum, and My Lords trust that the private ship-builders of the country will give their assistance in rendering the collection more complete.

The School will have a yearly Session at South Kensington of six months, from November to April. It will open early in November next.

When the School is not open, arrangements will be made, if possible, for study in the Royal Dockyards and in private yards.

ADMISSION.

The fee for the full course of instruction will be £25 for each Session of six months, or £60 for the course of three years. The public will be admitted to the full corresponding courses of lectures on payment of a fee of £5, or to each separate course for fees which will be hereafter determined. So long as there is room in the School the public will also have the opportunity of attending any of the separate classes of instruction on the payment of proportionate fees.

Four free studentships will be given in competition if qualified candidates come up, and to the two best of these scholarships of £50 per annum.

Information as to the subjects of competitive examination will be forwarded on application.

The competition this year will take place early in November, at a time to be hereafter announced. The syllabuses of the subjects, except practical shipbuilding, are given in the Directories for Science and Navigation Schools.

DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES.

Diplomas will be given to all persons, whether they have received their instruction at the school or not, who pass the final examinations of the school, provided that they give satisfactory evidence of having gone through the course of practical work recommended by the Council of the Institute of Naval Architects. These diplomas will be of two grades, according to the success of the candidate in the examination, the title of the higher grade being Fellow, and of the lower, Graduate, of the Royal School of Naval Architecture. Certificates for success in special subjects, and prizes also will be given to the students at the end of the session.

The Rev. J. Woolley, LL.D., has been appointed, with the concurrence of the Admiralty, Inspector-General and Director of Studies, and Mr. C. W. Merrifield, F.R.S., Principal of the Royal School of Naval Architecture.

The Principal will be directed to afford any information in his power to parents and guardians respecting the board and lodging of those who desire to reside in the neighbourhood. It must, however, be distinctly understood that the Department takes no responsibility in the matter.

All communications to be addressed to the Secretary, Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education, South Kensington, W.

By order of the Committee of Council
on Education.

THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE AND MARINE ENGINEERING.

—The SCHOOL will be OPENED on TUESDAY, the 1st NOVEMBER. The Principal will give a Public Address in the Lecture Theatre of the South Kensington Museum, at 3 p.m. Students must attend at the Principal Office in the Morning before 12 o'clock, to get their papers signed.

By Order of the Committee of Council
on Education.

THE GENERAL PROVIDENT AND CONFIDENT ASSURANCE COMPANY.

OFFICES:—14, New King Street, Covent Garden, London.

DIRECTORS.

The Right Honourable Lord Henry Gordon, *Chairman*.
All kinds of Assurance and Annuity business transacted by this Company. 70 per cent. of the profits divided amongst the Insurers every fifth year.

Policies payable during the lifetime of Insurer.

SICK POLICIES guaranteeing from 5s. to £5 per week during Sickness.

Prospectuses forwarded to any address, and all communications will receive prompt attention on being addressed to

G. W. GIDLEY LAKE, Manager.
Active Agents Wanted.

STAR LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

10, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.—DIRECTORS: Chairman—CHARLES HARWOOD, Esq., F.S.A., Judge of the County Court of Kent, and Recorder of Shrewsbury.—Deputy Chairman—JOHN CHURCHILL, Esq.—Every description of Life Assurance.—Annual Income, £130,000. The Reserved Fund exceeds Half a Million.

JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

WESTERN FIRE OFFICE (LIMITED).

WESTERN LIFE OFFICE.

ESTABLISHED 1842.

CHIEF OFFICES—3, Parliament Street, London, and 77, King Street, Manchester.

Prospectuses, Forms of Proposal, &c., forwarded post free.

ARTHUR SCRATCHLEY, M.A.,
General Manager and Actuary.

Private Agents Wanted.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vict., Cap. 9.

1, PRINCES STREET, BANK, LONDON.

Every description of LIFE ASSURANCE Business transacted at the lowest rates of Premium consistent with security.

The various Tables, some of which are peculiar to this Company, have been studiously adapted to the requirements of every class of Assurers.

ANDREW FRANCIS, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1809.

INVESTED FUNDS £2,233,927 17 7
ANNUAL REVENUE HALF-A-MILLION.

Business transacted in 1863.

FIRE PREMIUMS RECEIVED, less Re-Insurances £165,192 8 3

1071 LIFE POLICIES were issued, Assuring the large sum of £953,850 0 0

And producing New Premiums amounting to £23,002 14 0

CLOSE OF THE BOOKS FOR 1864.

Life Policies with Profits effected during this year will receive One Year's additional Bonus, in comparison to later Entrants.

The SEPTENNIAL DECLARATION OF PROFITS will be made on the close of the Books for 1865.

NINETY PER CENT. of the whole Profits is divided among the Participating Policy-holders.

RATES FOR INDIA, CEYLON, &c.

New Tables for Residents, Civil or Military, in these Countries, have recently been adopted.

Full Explanations, Tables of Rates, &c., may be obtained from any of the Company's Agents throughout the Kingdom.

F. W. LANCE, Secretary.

LONDON—HEAD OFFICES, 61, Threadneedle Street, E.C.

WEST END OFFICE 8, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall.

* Agents wanted for the vacant districts.

UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

1, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

ESTABLISHED 1834.

LIFE ASSURANCE AT VERY LOW PREMIUMS. Annual Division of Profits. All Premiums on Policies with Profits, British or Indian, Military or Civil, reduced one-half in 1864 after six payments. Accumulated Funds, £315,000. Annual Income, £135,000. Prospectus on application at the Head Office as above, or at Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras.

FREDK. HENDRIKS,
Actuary and Secretary.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

1, Old Broad Street, and 16 and 17, Pall Mall, London.

Established 1803.

Subscribed and Invested Capital and Reserved Fund, £1,900,000.

Losses paid, £3,000,000.

FIRE INSURANCES granted on every description of property at home and abroad at moderate rates. Claims liberally and promptly settled.

Insurances on Stock, Machinery, Utensils, and Fixtures in Trade effected at a reduction of one-half the duty formerly charged.

ANDREW BADEN, Superintendent.

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FOUNDED IN 1845.

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Sir Claude Scott, Bart. | Henry Pownall, Esq.

Every information will be readily afforded on application.

HENRY D. DAVENPORT, Secretary.

THE ONLY COMPLETE AND RELIABLE

LIFE ASSURANCE POLICIES are those which were prepared for the INDISPUTABLE LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY of SCOTLAND by the present Lord Chancellor of England when he was Attorney-General. They are not, like other Policies, made to depend upon the result of future inquiries, to be entered upon after the death of the Assured, but in themselves they are indefeasible and absolute securities.

EDINBURGH, 13, QUEEN STREET.
ALEX. ROBERTSON, Manager.

LONDON, 54, CHANCERY LANE.
J. BENNETT, Resident Secretary

29 OCTOBER, 1864.

WINTER EXHIBITION, 120, Pall Mall.
—The Twelfth Annual Exhibition of Cabinet Pictures by living British Artists will open on Monday next, from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

"What has long been wanted."—Times, Sept. 1861.

NOTICE.—THE SLANG DICTIONARY;
Or, the Words, Phrases, and "Fast" Expressions of High and Low Society, an entirely new Work, embodying the small volume issued in 1859, and giving four times as much matter, is ready this day at all Booksellers, 8vo., price 6s. 6d.; by post, 7s., pp. 325. JOHN CAMDEN HOTES, Piccadilly, London.

HOMOEOPATHIC PHARMACY
TAUGHT IN TEN LESSONS (Fee, Ten Guineas), by Mr. ACLAND, 25, Bryanstone Street, Portman Square, near the Marble Arch. At home daily, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MR. ACLAND, MEDICAL RUBBER and GALVANIST, REMOVED to 25, Bryanstone Street, Portman Square, near the Marble Arch. At home from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

TEMPERANCE PERMANENT LAND AND BUILDING SOCIETY.

PERSONS HAVING CASH TO INVEST

Should examine the Prospectus of this Society. Depositors are guaranteed a fixed rate of interest—5 per cent. per annum—payable half-yearly. Principal withdrawable at a few days' notice. Investing members have profit credited to them yearly; those holding completed shares receive profit half-yearly. The profit credited to members during the past ten years has been at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum.

PERSONS WANTING MONEY

Can have advances on Freehold or Leasehold Property for any period of years not exceeding fifteen, the mortgage being redeemable by equal monthly instalments. Interest (in addition to a small premium), 5 per cent. on the balance each year.

Apply to HENRY J. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

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NOTE.—Three hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling have been advanced on house property alone.

£1,000 IN CASE OF DEATH.

Or an Allowance of £8 per Week while laid up by Injury caused by

ACCIDENT OF ANY KIND.

Whether Walking, Riding, Driving, Hunting, Shooting, Fishing, or at Home, may be secured by an Annual Payment of £3 to the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

MORE THAN 8000 CLAIMS FOR

COMPENSATION

HAVE BEEN PROMPTLY AND LIBERALLY PAID.

For Particulars apply to the Clerks at any of the Railway Stations, to the Local Agents, or at the Offices, 10, REGENT STREET, and 64, CORNHILL.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

CLERICAL, & SCHOLASTIC AGENCY OFFICES.

78, BOROUGH ROAD, S.E.

The Nobility, Clergy, Gentry, Heads of Families, and Principals of Schools are respectfully informed that they can always be provided, free of charge, and at a few hours' notice, with Tutors, Curates, Secretaries, Governesses, Companions, and Lady Housekeepers. Undeniable references required before placing names upon the Register, so that Employers may accept an introduction from these Offices as a guarantee of the respectability and good faith of the applicant. Advertisements and Schools disposed of. Pupils introduced. Mr. E. HARRIS, Superintendent.

PRIVATE TUTOR.—A GENTLEMAN

(Member of the London University), who is Master in a large School for the Navy, &c., and who is familiar with the requirements of the Army, Navy, and University Examinations, desires an Engagement. Address, stating Salary, &c., Mr. SMITH, Stubbington House, Fareham.

PARTRIDGE AND COZENS.

MANUFACTURING STATIONERS, 192, FLEET STREET, corner of Chancery Lane.—Carriage paid to the Country on Orders exceeding 30s.—THE LARGEST and most varied Stock in the Kingdom of Note, Letter, and Foolscap Papers, Envelopes, Account and MS. Books, Household Papers, &c.—PARTRIDGE and COZENS' celebrated GUINOA CASE of STATIONERY forwarded free to any Railway Station in England on receipt of Post-office Order.—No CHARGE for Plain Stamping Crests, Arms, or Address on Paper or Envelopes. Coloured Stamping (Relief) reduced to 1s. per 100. Polished Steel Crest Dies engraved for 5s. Business or Address Dies from 2s.—SCHOOL STATIONERY supplied on the most liberal terms.—Illustrated Price List of Inkstands, Despatch Boxes, Stationery Cabinets, Postage Scales, Writing Cases, &c., post free. PARTRIDGE and COZENS, 192, Fleet Street, E.C.

DULCE et UTILE—how rarely do our

Doctors combine them! The ESSENTIAL SPIRIT of MELISSUS, the Cordial Tonic, offers at once a Remedy in Stomachic Derangement, Chronic Dyspepsia, whilst grateful to the palate, and a fine Appetizer.

To be had of Wholesale Patent Medicine Vendors, and all respectable Chemists throughout the Country, in bottles at 2s. 6d. each.

Full Directions for Use on wrappers enclosing the bottles.

RAILWAY GREASE, COLLIERY ANTI-FRICTION and MILL GREASES, and LUBRICATING OILS.

TURPENTINE, a perfect Substitute for Turpentine, at less than one-third the Price.

PATENT CAZELINE Burning Oil, adapted to all Paraffin and Petroleum Lamps.

Terms and Particulars on Application.

CASELL, SMITH, & Co., 90, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

SMITH, BECK, AND BECK'S NEW

MERCURIAL MAXIMUM THERMOMETER.—This instrument cannot be put out of order, and registers the heat with the greatest accuracy. A description sent free by post, or to be had on application at 31, Cornhill, E.C.

W. LADD, MICROSCOPE AND PHILO-

SOPHICAL INSTRUMENT MAKER (by appointment to the Royal Institution of Great Britain), begs respectfully to inform the Public that Microscopes, Telescopes, Opera Glasses, Mathematical and Philosophical Instruments of the best construction, may be obtained at his Establishment,

11 and 12, Beak Street, Regent Street, London, W.

The Prize Medal, 1862, is awarded to W. L. for excellence of Microscopes, Induction Coils, &c.

FOR EVERY HOME AN EXCELSIOR

SEWING AND EMBROIDERING MACHINE is the simplest, cheapest, and best; doing every variety of domestic and fancy work in a superior manner. Price from £8. 6s.

WRIGHT and MANN, 143, Holborn Bars, London, E.C.

Manufactory—Gipping Works, Ipswich.

HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT.

GRAEFENBERG VILLA, NEW BARNET, HERTS, close to the Railway Station, under the direction of Mr. MERCALFE (Proprietor of the Hydropathic Establishment, Priessnitz House, Paddington Green, W.)

New Barnet, admitted by the Medical Profession to be one of the most salubrious spots in England, adjoins Hadley Wood, and is within half-an-hour's ride by the Great Northern Railway of the King's Cross Station, from whence trains start every hour.

For Terms and Prospectuses apply to Mrs. WESTON, Graefenberg Villa, as above.

CAUTION.—COCKS'S CELEBRATED

READING SAUCE, for Fish, Game, Steaks, Soups, Gravies, Hot and Cold Meats, and unrivalled for general use, is sold by all respectable Dealers in Sauces. It is manufactured only by the Executors of the Sole Proprietor, CHARLES COCKS, 6, DUKE STREET, READING, the Original Sauce Warehouse.

ALL OTHERS ARE SPURIOUS IMITATIONS.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS'

WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This Delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE,"

is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

* * Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the PROPRIETORS, Worcester; Messrs. CROSSE and BLACKWELL; Messrs. BARCLAY and SON, London, &c. &c.; and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple but certain remedy for Indigestion. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient, are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use. Sold in bottles at 1s. 1d., 2s. 6d., and 11s. each, in every town in the kingdom.

CAUTION! Be sure to ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase the various imitations.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH.—

MESSRS WOTHERSPOON & CO. have been appointed Starch Purveyors to H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES. This Starch is used in the ROYAL LAUNDRY, and was awarded a PRIZE MEDAL, 1862. Sold by all Grocers, Chandlers, &c.

WOTHERSPOON & Co., Glasgow and London.

MR. HOWARD, Surgeon Dentist, 52, Fleet

Street, has introduced an entirely new description of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They so perfectly resemble the natural teeth as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer. They will never change colour or decay, and will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. Decayed teeth stopped, and rendered sound and useful in mastication. —52 Fleet Street. At home from 10 till 5.

TEETH AND PAINLESS DENTISTRY.

—MESSRS. LEWIN MOSELY and SONS, 30, BERNERS STREET, OXFORD STREET, and 448, STRAND (Opposite Charing Cross Railway Station). Established 1820, offer to the Public a medium for supplying Artificial Teeth on a system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY. These Teeth are cheaper, more natural, comfortable, and durable, than any yet produced. They are self-adhesive, affording support to loose teeth, rendering unnecessary either wires or ligatures, require but one visit to fit, and are supplied at prices completely defying competition. Consultation free. Teeth from 5s. Sets, 5, 7, 10, and 15 Guineas, warranted. For the efficacy, utility, and success of this system, vide "Lancet."

* * No connection with any one of the same name.

DENTAL SURGERY.

MR. EPHRAIM MOSELY'S

IMPROVEMENTS in the CONSTRUCTION of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, Gums, and Palates (on an India-rubber base), are secured by letters patent, dated December, 1862, whereby the continual outlay of new teeth is avoided, and alterations from any cause being easily remedied, all wires and fastenings are unnecessary; sharp edges are avoided, a greatly increased freedom of suction is supplied, a natural elasticity, hitherto wholly unattainable, and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, are secured; while, from the softness and flexibility of the agents employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums. Consultations free.

* * No CONNECTION with ANY OF THE SAME NAME.

9, GROSVENOR STREET.

530

GUN COTTON MANUFACTORY:—

GREAT EASTERN CHEMICAL WORKS, STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.—MESSRS. THOMAS, PRENTICE, & CO.

THIS MANUFACTORY has been established for the purpose of preparing Gun Cotton, according to the Austrian process, and was opened on the 26th of January last, under the inspection of Baron LENK. Messrs. THOMAS, PRENTICE, & Co. are now able to supply Gun Cotton in its most improved form, either for the purposes of Engineering and Mining, or for Military and Submarine explosion, and for the service of Artillery as a substitute for gunpowder.

The advantages of Baron LENK's Gun Cotton are the following:—

FOR PURPOSES OF ARTILLERY.

1. The same initial velocity of the projectile can be obtained by a charge of Gun Cotton one-fourth of the weight of gunpowder.
2. No smoke from the explosion.
3. Does not foul the gun.
4. Does not heat the gun to the injurious degree of gunpowder.
5. The same velocity to the projectile with much smaller recoil of the gun.
6. Will produce the same initial velocity of projectile with a shorter length of barrel.
7. In projectiles of the nature of explosive shells, Gun Cotton has the advantage of breaking the shell more equally into much more numerous pieces than gunpowder.
8. When used in shells instead of gunpowder, one-third of the weight of the latter produces double the explosive force.

FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND MINING.

9. A charge of Gun Cotton of given size exerts double the explosive force of gunpowder.
10. It may be so used, as, in its explosion, to reduce the rock to much smaller pieces than gunpowder, and so facilitate its removal.
11. Producing no smoke, the work can proceed much more rapidly, and with less injury to health.
12. In working coal mines, bringing down much larger quantities with a given charge, and absence of smoke, enable a much greater quantity of work to be done in a given time at a given cost.
13. The weight of Gun Cotton required to produce a given effect in mining is only one-sixth part of the weight of gunpowder.
14. In blasting rock under water the wider range and greater force of a given charge cheapens considerably the cost of submarine work.
15. The peculiar local action of Gun Cotton enables the engineer to destroy and remove submarine stones and rocks without the preliminary delay and expense of boring chambers for the charge.

FOR MILITARY ENGINEERING.

16. The weight of Gun Cotton is only one-sixth that of gunpowder.
17. Its peculiar localized action enables the engineer to destroy bridges and palisades, and to remove every kind of obstacle with great facility.
18. For submarine explosion, either in attack or defence, it has the advantage of a much wider range of destructive power than gunpowder.
19. For the same purpose. From its lightness it has the advantage of keeping afloat the water-tight case in which it is contained, while gunpowder sinks it to the bottom.

FOR NAVAL WARFARE.

20. Where guns are close together, as in the batteries of ships and case-mated forts, the absence of smoke removes the great evil, of the firing of one gun impeding the aim of the next, and thus Gun Cotton facilitates rapid firing.
21. Between decks, also, the absence of smoke allows continuous rapid firing to be maintained. The absence of fouling and of heating is equally advantageous for naval as for military artillery.

GENERAL ADVANTAGES.

22. Time, damp, and exposure do not alter the qualities of the patent Gun Cotton.
23. It can be transported through fire without danger, simply by being wetted, and when dried in the open air it becomes as good as before.
24. It is much safer than gunpowder, owing to its being manufactured in the shape of rope or yarn.
25. The patent Gun Cotton has the peculiarity of being entirely free from the danger of spontaneous combustion, and is constant and unalterable in its nature.

Messrs. THOMAS, PRENTICE, & Co. are now in a position to contract with the owners of mines, engineers, contractors, and Governments, for Gun Cotton prepared in the various forms required for their use. Mining charges will be supplied in the rope form according to the diameter of bore required, and Gun Cotton match-line will be supplied with it. Instructions as to the method of using it in mines will also be supplied.

They are also prepared to manufacture the Gun Cotton, and deliver it in the form of gun cartridges, adapted to every description of ammunition.

Artillerists who prefer to manufacture their own cartridges, may make special arrangements with the patentee through Messrs. PRENTICE & Co.

Stowmarket, March 10, 1864.

THRESHER'S COLOURED FLANNEL SHIRTS.

Next Door to Somerset House, Strand.

SOFT, DELICATE, and WHITE SKINS,

with a DELIGHTFUL and LASTING FRAGRANCE, by using FIELD'S CELEBRATED UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS, 4d. and 6d. each.

Sold by all Chandlers and Grocers throughout the Kingdom; but the Public should ask for Field's, and see that the names of J. C. and J. FIELD are on each packet, box, and tablet.

Wholesale and for exportation, at the Works,

UPPER MARSH, LAMBETH, S.

Where also may be obtained their Prize Medal Paraffine Candles.

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IN a letter from the American correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, which appeared in that paper on the 21st of this month, we met, to our surprise, with the following statement:—

Through the medium of one of the publications which do find their way across the Atlantic—the *Illustrated News*—I was lately made cognisant that a periodical called the *Reader* had discovered that the correspondents of the English press in New York who did not support the Northern cause were hired advocates of the Southern Confederacy, "venal scribblers," and so forth.

Now that the author of the letters which have been published for the last year in the *Daily Telegraph* under the title of "America in the Midst of War" is Mr. George Sala is a fact almost as notorious as the existence of a "periodical called the *Reader*." From the tenor of the remarks with which Mr. Sala commented on what he terms most justly "a scandalous accusation" it is obvious that he considers himself the person implicated by the statement which he supposes to have been made in our columns. That this should be so was to us, we grant freely, a matter of painful astonishment. Personal considerations, in which the public has no interest, would have rendered such an accusation on our part against Mr. Sala singularly unbecoming and discreditable; and, even if these personal considerations had had no existence, the very fact of making so absurd and unwarranted an attack upon an English journalist of very high reputation would have stamped us with unpardonable folly. Whatever else may have been the faults of this journal, the habit of making personal attacks has not been one of our failings. On the contrary, by introducing the custom of signed articles—a practice hitherto almost unknown in British journalism—we have precluded ourselves from the possibility of

making reckless imputations beneath the shelter of anonymous writing. Being, therefore, utterly at a loss to discover what could have been the origin of the charge Mr. Sala had brought against us, we resolved to investigate the matter, and, having done so, propose to lay the result of our investigations before our readers.

After some search, we find, in the *Illustrated London News* of the 10th of last September, the statement to which we presume Mr. Sala makes reference. In the "Echoes of the Week"—a sort of gossiping commentary on the incidents of the day, which occupies the place in our illustrated contemporary of the London letter in a provincial journal—there appears the following extraordinary statement, which we quote verbatim. After contradicting a report that Mr. Sala had returned to England, the author of "Echoes of the Week" adds:—

By the way, a writer from New York in the *Reader* plainly accuses our English correspondents of painting white black, according to order, and the English of being gulled and hoodwinked in their judgment of this great struggle, and of American character, by these paid fibbers. This, of course, is the old story; to all English travellers, from Basil Hall, Mrs. Trollope, and Charles Dickens to Mrs. Trollope's son and Dr. Mackay, we have heard long ago that immense sums have been paid for the purpose of abusing America; and by whom? It does appear to us that these gentlemen could have made, if venal, quite as much money by writing up anything *coulour de rose*. Let us hope that some English author will give this slander an indignant denial. Of Mr. Sala's letters we may say, honestly, that, without reference to depth of view or method of treatment, we have heard dwellers in America—nay, Americans themselves—attest their photographic truth.

Taking this paragraph in context with the allusions to Mr. Sala which precede it, any rational person can only put upon it the same construction as that taken by the special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*—namely, that THE READER had deliberately accused him of being a "paid fibber"—had, to say the least, endorsed a slander which demanded "an indignant denial." If this is not the true purport of the paragraph we have quoted, the gentleman who writes the "Echoes of the Week" is ignorant of the meaning of words.

Having searched carefully through the columns of THE READER, we can find but one single statement to which the compiler of the "Echoes" can by any possibility refer. In our number of the 27th of August we published a leading article on "English Notions of American Society." This article contained a letter from an American scholar of high repute on both sides the Atlantic, who wrote to us under the signature of a "New Yorker," complaining of certain criticisms of our own on the supposed prevalence of "rowdyism" in the States, which he considered unfair to the North. In this letter our correspondent tells the following incident:—"It was not three weeks ago that the correspondent of a London journal said to me, in the midst of a talk about his business, 'Now, of course, when I took the place, I asked, 'Is black to be black, and white, white; or is white to be black, and black, white?' for of course, you know, a man taking such a position must do as he is desired to do.' Anybody who takes the trouble of referring to this letter will see that it never even suggests that English correspondents have been bought by Southern sympathizers to traduce the North. The utmost that it even implies is, that they have arranged their descriptions rather with a view to pleasing their readers at home than to paint things exactly as they saw them. Even against this supposition we felt it our duty to protest in criticizing the letter on which our article was based. 'We should not like,' we said, 'to think, with our correspondent, that this persistency in one vein [of description] arises from so vile a cause as wilful pandering to the anti-American prejudices of John Bull, but should rather,

if there is gross error, attribute it to some organic incompatibility between the normal British mind and the circumstances of American civilization."

Thus we beg to take the following exceptions to the allegation contained in "Echoes of the Week." In the first place, the statement complained of was not made "by a writer from New York in the *Reader*," but by a correspondent, whose letter we published, as we should do that of any man of reputation, without reference to whether his opinions coincided with our own or not; secondly, the statement never accused English correspondents of being "paid fibbers," but of being advocates who held a brief—an accusation utterly distinct in its character; thirdly, in the very article which contained this letter we protested against the truth of this accusation; and, lastly, there is absolutely nothing to show that the correspondent alluded to is Mr. Sala; and the idea that he was the person in question never entered into our heads till our attention was called to the paragraph in the *Illustrated News* by the perfectly justifiable criticisms of Mr. Sala, which we have quoted at the commencement of this article.

Out of regard, therefore, to common decency, if not in justice to Mr. Sala and ourselves, the reporter of the "Echoes of the Week" is bound to retract a statement which, we are quite willing to believe, was only made through carelessness. It would be almost an insult to express our disbelief in any charge impugning the personal integrity of the author of "America in the Midst of War;" we could only, therefore, express our regret that a stupid misrepresentation of our words should have caused annoyance to a writer for whose great talent we have so often expressed our high estimation. And with that we pass from a personal subject, on which we regret having been compelled to enter.

As, however, we have touched upon the question of newspaper-correspondence, we may take this opportunity of saying something with regard to the ethics of a branch of literature which has almost sprung into existence within the last twenty years, and which is daily assuming a greater importance. Mr. Sala—himself a correspondent of no small reputation—tells us, in the letter wherein he repudiates the charge we are erroneously supposed to have brought against him, "that Rothschild, Jones Loyd, Salamanca, and Emile Pereire are not all together rich enough to purchase the pen of an English journalist who has the slightest respect for his profession or for himself." Now, if this grandiloquent phrase means that an honest man, whether journalist, statesman, or tinker, is not to be bribed into doing a dishonest action, it is simply a tautology. If it means that no English journalist ever was, or is, or can be accessible to the influence of money, then all we can say is, that our own experience of journalism has not led us to form so exalted an impression of our trade as that enunciated by the author of the "Seven Sons of Mammon." In journalism, honesty of a certain kind is eminently the best policy; moreover, the intellectual culture, essential to any genuine literary success, creates a sort of morbid aversion to the dirt which inevitably attends any dubious transaction. For this reason we believe sincerely that newspaper-writers, as a class, are honest above the average of men who pursue trades of perhaps not inferior dignity. But to say that there has never been a dishonest journalist, or a venal correspondent, is to make an assertion that every newspaper-proprietor would treat with contempt. The more difficult consideration is, What is honest, and what is not? There are some things which are clearly and palpably dishonest. If a correspondent represents that he has been to Japan when he never got further than Alexandria, he is telling a direct and avowed falsehood; if he states that General Grant has won a decisive victory when he has positive reason to know that he has been

repulsed with heavy loss, he is deliberately misguiding and deceiving his readers. But it is a perfectly open question whether he is bound to tell everything that he sees in the country where his post is fixed. A correspondent is, according to common notions, not only a recorder of events, but an advocate of certain opinions. Suppose, for instance, that a correspondent sent to Poland during the late insurrection happened to be an enthusiastic advocate of Polish independence. Being anxious to support the views of his journal—views with which he sympathizes cordially—he endeavours to excite English feeling in behalf of Poland by dwelling on the enormities of Russian rule. He states nothing that is not true, but he also states nothing which does not tell in favour of his adopted cause; and it would be absurd to say that he acts dishonestly in so doing. Our own opinion has always been that a correspondent should be a political photographer, and nothing more—that he should describe things simply as he sees them, not as he thinks they ought to be seen by the readers of his letters. This, however, is not the received standard view; and there is much to be said for the opposite doctrine to that which we have broached. It may be urged with truth that a series of letters is not like a book which is read consecutively: each letter stands by itself; and, if the facts given in any particular letter militate against the view which, on the whole, the writer believes to be the correct one, he is unintentionally creating a false impression by quoting the facts in question. Practically, the evil of one-sided correspondence is not so great as might be at first imagined. The public soon discovers whether a correspondent is a partisan or not, and estimates his letters accordingly. It is because Mr. Russell avoided, to a great extent, the errors of partisanship that his opinions have carried much more weight in England than those of any of his colleagues amongst the correspondents of our chief English journals in America.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE WORLD'S HISTORY.

A History of the World from the Earliest Records to the Present Time. By Philip Smith, B.A., one of the principal contributors to the *Dictionaries of Greek and Roman Antiquities, Biography and Geography*. Vol. I.—Ancient History, from the Creation of the World to the Accession of Philip of Macedon. Illustrated by Maps and Plans. (Walton and Maberly.)

THE study of history has been invested with fresh interest by the important results of recent historical and critical investigation. Freed from myth and fable, and subjected to a searching analysis, each decade of history becomes more attractive to those who seek to know only the truth, whether of fact or principle. If history be that which unfolds to us the teachings of Providence, the workings of human passion, the qualities of the human intellect, and the progress of human society, it is valuable in proportion as every unhistoric element is eliminated, and as the historian's truth and impartiality are made manifest. Tried by this standard, much of what we have been accustomed to call history becomes nearly worthless. The imperfect means of ascertaining facts possessed by the historian, his own ignorance, prejudice, or bigotry, sometimes his negligence or indolence, have contributed to overlay truth with fable, fact with fiction, and to give an altogether erroneous impression of the character and motives of the actors whose doings he undertakes to describe. We are prepared accordingly to most heartily welcome every new work on history based on investigations which have had for their object the winnowing of false from true, and the construction of a "round unvarnished tale."

Mr. Smith, the first volume of whose book now lies before us, proposes to relate the history of the world from the earliest records

to our own times, a work which has never been achieved by the literature of England since Sir Walter Raleigh left unfinished his "History of the World," in the composition of which he solaced his imprisonment. "Universal Histories" there are, bulky or meagre, recording the annals of each nation separately; but Mr. Smith aims, in his "History of the World," to trace the story of Divine Providence and human progress in one connected narrative, preserving an organic unity throughout. In carrying out this plan he finds it necessary to set aside those deductions and speculations in geology, anthropology, and theology which have of late engaged so large a share of public attention, and to assume the divine and historic character of the Hebrew Scriptures, accepting, however, such contributions from science as may serve to illustrate his narrative. As to the propriety of this procedure opinions will of course differ, and it will be argued by those whose views cannot be ignored that questions which Mr. Smith's plan requires him to regard as settled are still *sub judice*. History, he justly points out, however, rests on the evidence of credible witnesses; while science rests on observation and experiment, although history often finds confirmation in existing things, and science makes a secondary use of testimony. Without seeking to come into collision with science as to the questions of the origin of this world and of man himself, Mr. Smith, avoiding conclusions resting on two slender foundations of admitted facts, accepts the testimony of the sacred writers as to these questions not only without hesitation, but with a reverential faith. Regarding them as in all respects credible witnesses, whose veracity has been demonstrated beyond all doubt, he makes the Holy Scriptures the basis and starting-point of the "History of the World."

In proposing to narrate the story of our whole race, after the same mode as has been applied hitherto to that of separate nations, Mr. Smith says that it has "a beginning, a middle, and an end." He follows it "from its beginning in the sacred records and from the dawn of civilization in the East, through the successive Oriental empires, the rise of liberty, and the perfection of heathen polity, arts, and literature in Greece and Rome, the change which passed over the face of the world when the light of Christianity sprung up, the origin and first appearance of those barbarian races which overthrew both divisions of the Roman empire, the annals of the states which rose on the empire's ruins, including the picturesque details of medieval history, the steady progress of modern liberty and civilization, and the extension of these influences by discovery, conquest, colonization, and Christian missions to the remotest regions of the earth." "In a word," he says, "as separate histories reflect the detached scenes of human action and suffering, our aim is to bring into one view the several parts which assuredly form one great whole, moving on under the guidance of Divine Providence, to the unknown end ordained in the Divine purposes." Yet fully alive to the fact that the usefulness of such a work will depend on skilful condensation, he proposes to depict only the more striking facts of history, the rise and fall of empires, the achievements of warriors and heroes, the struggles of peoples for their rights and freedom, and the conflict between priestcraft and religious liberty, not, however, overlooking the more quiet and influential working of science and art, social progress, and individual thought. To give unity to such a work, to say all that ought to be said and no more, is, it must be confessed, no easy task. Mr. Smith, however, was encouraged to attempt it by the success of Gibbon in his immortal work, in which a great historical mass, made up of distinct elements, each with its own epochs strongly marked, and having few epochs common to the whole series, has been blended into unity, and at the close leaves an impression on the mind akin to that derived from some

mosaic picture whose perfect unity induces forgetfulness of its myriad constituent fragments. Something like this effect Mr. Smith aims to produce. Speaking of Schleiermacher's distinction between the longitudinal and transverse methods of viewing any series of historic facts, by which is meant that the historian may either follow one of the great trains of events which history presents from its beginning to its end, or choose some epoch (point of stoppage) at which to take a view of the then existing state of each separate nation, our author justly argues that the chain of history is not a bundle of parallel wires, each of which can be traced from its beginning to its end—that the strands are so entangled and interlaced that the only strictly longitudinal treatment of history is that which embraces the whole annals of the human race, and that such treatment becomes possible when aided by the "transverse" method at well-chosen epochs.

The question then is: Has our author, like Gibbon, succeeded in blending the many and heterogeneous elements which his plan embraced into one harmonious whole? Any important omission would be a serious flaw in such a work. Gibbon proposed to write the history of the "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," and, as our author shows, has gathered up the stories of the splendours of the Antonines, the vices and follies of their successors, the bewildering revolutions, the wars upon the frontiers, the torrents of barbarian invasion, the vanishing of imperial Rome, the triumph of Christianity, the rise of the modern kingdoms of Europe, and of the Queen of the East on the waters of the Bosphorus, the ripening of the West for Feudalism, and the punishment of Eastern idolatry by the Mohammedan scimitar, and, with the skill of a master, has wrought them into one perfect work of art. The great historian thus accomplished all that he proposed to himself. Has our author done the same? We think not exactly. Mr. Smith proposes to write "longitudinally" and "transversely" the history of the whole human race. In the present volume he narrates the story of the race down to B.C. 360. In a lucid, succinct, and pleasing style, and with admirable method, he recounts the story of the creation and the primeval state of man, man's fall, and the career of the antediluvians. Starting again from the catastrophe of the Deluge, he explains the origin of civil society, the patriarchal constitution, the prophetic destiny of Shem, Ham, and Japhet, the division of the earth, the monarchy of Nimrod, and the confusion of tongues at Babel. Devoting a chapter to the division of the nations, and the language and geographical distribution of the various races, he takes up the history of the Hebrew race and the history of Egypt, with which it is so closely connected. The former, in two chapters, he brings down to B.C. 508, the date of the Captivity—the latter to the final conquest of the country by the Persians, B.C. 353. The empires on the Euphrates and Tigris next come under review, and the grandeur of the Chaldean, Assyrian, and Babylonian are well depicted. Then follows a history of the Medo-Persian empire from its origin to its settlement under Darius Hystaspes. Our author then turns to the more interesting and instructive history of Greece, discussing the beautiful traditions of the mythical and heroic ages, the rivalries and contests of the Greek communities, the progress of Greek literature, philosophy, and art, the heroic struggles with Persia, and the fierce internecine strife down to the end of the Theban supremacy, B.C. 360. In thus far following the main stream of history our author has executed his task with great skill and judgment. But, previously to B.C. 360, the date to which he has brought down his history, other countries and peoples had not only an existence, but a history and a literature which were entitled to notice in a work professing to be a history of the whole human race. Barbarous tribes or remote fringes of population might well

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pass unnoticed, to be afterwards treated of under the head of modern discovery and colonization; but India and China claim much greater attention in a history of the human race than Mr. Smith has accorded them. Setting aside the extravagances of their chronology, there can be no doubt of the high antiquity of these Oriental civilizations. In the case of India the discovery of the Sanscrit language and its relation to Greek and Latin have invested its remote history and literature with very special importance.

The lectures of Professor Max Müller, which we lately noticed, have finally disposed of the theory of the Grecian legends adopted by our author—that they are the spontaneous outpourings of the thought and spirit of the Hellenic nation, and framed to minister to the religious, the heroic, and the national spirit of that ingenious people. It has now been demonstrated that these legends have been derived from a Hindoo source, and, far from being distorted versions of the deeds of mortals, do but bring down into the arena of human life and action the poetical personification of the powers and phenomena of Nature to be found in the Vedic hymns. Virtually to leave out Ancient India from a history of the human race is, therefore, to omit reference to one of the most important sources of influence upon the language, thought, and religion both of ancient and modern times; for the poetic imaginings of the early Aryans have been metamorphosed and transfused not only into the religious systems of Greeks and Romans, Celts, Slaves, and Teutons, but have reappeared, again metamorphosed from the old Roman mythology in the saints' legends of the Roman Catholic Church, as was long ago shown by Dr. Conyers Middleton in his "Letters from Rome."

We draw attention to these points, not to detract from the merits of the volume before us, whose conception and execution on the whole do the author the highest credit, but for the purpose of indicating how much new light may yet be thrown upon history, and how the best of our histories may, like Murray's Handbooks or our system of naval architecture, need, at intervals, a revision. So rapidly do those sciences now advance which tend to illustrate the past of our race upon the earth that we are required to keep our ideas on the subject in a state of fusion, removing, from time to time, the scum as it is impelled to the surface by the fire of searching criticism and investigation. This indicates all the more need of new histories such as our author's, and of "new and revised editions" of the old ones so as to bring them abreast of the knowledge of the day.

LITERATURE IN FICTION.

Uncle Angus. By Mary S. G. Nichols. Two Volumes. (Saunders and Otley.)

IF it were possible for paper and printers' ink to be more interesting than human beings, we should say that the real hero of "Uncle Angus" was the *Polyanthos*. Whether the subject of this high-sounding designation is identified, in the mind of the authoress, with any existing organ of literature or opinion it is difficult to say; though the mixture of leaders, essays, and poems of which it is made up suggests a comparison with some of the cheap serials. At all events, the proprietors of these papers have no cause to be dissatisfied with the parallel. The *Polyanthos* is edited by Dr. Alexander Maclane, a man of genius standing six feet high in his stockings, and "in every way a glorious specimen of beauty and power." He has written a book demonstrating "that vision may be as strong in the forehead, or fingertips, as in the optic nerve," and he is now engaged in writing a great poem. As the latter is not yet marketable, and the former appears to have brought its author nothing but an American degree, and, we should think, a publisher's bill, Dr. Maclane starts the *Polyanthos*. The experiment certainly ought to have been a success; for we are told

that the editor could easily write the whole of every number, with pleasure both to himself and the public; but, unfortunately, there are two obstacles standing in the way. The mechanical element in the journal has to be paid for, and Dr. Maclane is "liberal to contributors." "Had he not been a contributor at nothing a page, in the spring-time of his life and hope?—how could he treat others as he had been treated?" Still, notwithstanding these drains on his resources, he has not made altogether a bad thing of it; for, in spite of his "plague of poverty," he contrives to gratify his love of "good dinners, good wines, aromatic cigars, an Indian dressing-gown," and, generally, of "the beautiful in nature and art;" while he has an ambitious wife, determined to maintain a great position, and a beautiful daughter with a passion for expensive dress, and an unfortunate tendency to wear gloves so small that she tears three pair in putting on one.

At the opening of the story, however, the reader finds Dr. Maclane exalted for the time beyond all need or reach of pity. An anonymous correspondent "is gushing rills of song in the poets' corner of the *Polyanthos*, and the Doctor lives, and moves, and has his being in the spring-time of beauty and poetry thus revealed." He has tried, by every means in his power, to tempt his contributor to make himself known to an admiring editor, but all has been in vain; until at length the touching appeal—unparalleled, we imagine, among "Notices to Correspondents"—"If the author of 'Nectar from Pomona' will kindly communicate with the editor, he will confer a favour which will be appreciated above price," brings out an answer. A Mr. Clifford Chessington comes forward and avows himself the author. He is received with open arms, introduced into the Doctor's family, and thereupon proceeds to make love to his daughter Victoria. The course of the tender passion is ruffled, however, by certain unpleasant discoveries. Mr. Chessington has committed forgery, and has a wife already. These facts are disclosed to Victoria just as she is about to marry him without her parents' knowledge; and Mr. Chessington finds it convenient to accept a brigadier-general's commission in the Federal army, which has been offered him by an American agent whom he met in Paris, and to leave at once for New York. Meanwhile, "generous living and mental and convivial excitement" have combined with "pecuniary misery" to reduce Dr. Maclane to a state of temporary "dementia." At first it looks as though this misfortune would have a most beneficial influence on the fortunes of the *Polyanthos*, for "Uncle Angus," the Doctor's brother, is disposed to undertake to "answer for its material existence." But Mrs. Maclane dislikes her husband having any business relations with her practical and hard-headed brother-in-law; and fortune so far stands her friend that, before the agreement is signed, the physician who is attending upon Dr. Maclane proposes to introduce to the proprietors the Hon. Frank Hamilton Fitz Harding.

"I want a publisher," Fitz Harding had said to Dr. Mitchell. "I have been shabbily treated. Publishers and editors, and all that sort, are tiresome, I assure you—quite so. I know what I can do; and, when I can find appreciation and publication, the world shall know. I wrote a leader for the *Times*; and sent it to the editor with my card, and he did not print it; as I am alive, he took no notice of it. I thought I must have misdirected it, and I wrote another piece and sent a boy with it. Never heard from it. Then I tried the magazines and weeklies. The same thing over and over. Sometimes they sent back my things marked 'Not suited; with thanks.' How they knew that I do not know, for I gummed the leaves together to see if they read my things, and they always came back stuck together. All the periodicals are governed by cliques. They are in a conspiracy to keep their own in, and everybody else out. If a fellow has talent, so much the worse for him. I am worn out with my trials—quite so, I assure you, doctor."

Between the man who has money and wants a periodical and the man who has a periodical and wants money communications are easily opened. Mr. Fitz Harding becomes part proprietor of the *Polyanthos*, and the *Polyanthos* is in part written by Mr. Fitz Harding. The results of the arrangement our readers can either imagine for themselves or gather from the second volume of the novel.

It would be terrible, indeed, if the author of "Nectar from Pomona" could have descended to the venial error of bigamy, or the more commonplace crime of forgery. Literature, however, is spared such a disgrace. The poet whose "rills of song" delighted Dr. Maclane turns out not to be Mr. Chessington at all, but a certain Charlie Howard, a nephew of Mrs. Maclane, who has been brought up in the Doctor's house, but who, being absolutely without any poetic honour therein, has not had the courage to write under his own name. Mr. Howard is always in difficulties, indescribably lazy, and much given to late hours. He has a hundred a year of his own, but it is all mortgaged to pay his Oxford debts. But he has a good digestion and "simple tastes—except in French boots, embroidered waistcoats, elegant stationery, and out of the way pets"—and is, in every respect, so nice a young man that the reader would be quite sorry to hear of his being in any way made uncomfortable by his poverty. Any sympathy on this score would, however, be rather thrown away—at least, if we may judge from the description of his room in his aunt's house.

The window was full of rare plants that nobody but Charlie could raise in London out of a hot-house. His choice library rejoiced in beautiful bindings. He had pictures, one of which would have furnished his room, so rare was their merit, so exquisite their charm. He had statuary in bronze and marble. Cut flowers were hanging in moss baskets, with their stems in wet moss or cotton, and again they were displayed in vases, in such loveliness of arrangement that each cluster seemed a poem. The soft carpet—in itself a garden—couches and cushions that might have been filled with air or eider-down, an easy chair fit for an Oriental emperor—all these made themselves at home in Charlie's room.

A very placid little love-affair is carried on between Charlie Howard and an orphan niece of Dr. Maclane's, who has also been brought up in the house. Jessie Maclane seems, at first sight, to be a worthy member of a family whose poverty forcibly reminds one of that receipt for an "economical pudding" occasionally found in cookery-books which commences "Take four quarts of cream," for she is described as a girl of quiet and inexpensive tastes, whose ordinary dress is "drab or mouse colour, to which pearls and exquisite lace gave the necessary relief." It turns out, however, that this is only a compromise with the traditions of her Quaker parents, and one, too, which, in the end, fails to satisfy her conscience. It is in vain that "her fair shoulders were always covered with a high body, and never shone through the shower of sunny curls except when nobody could see them;" the mouse-coloured silks and the sunny curls are in themselves sins against "the testimonies;" and Jessie at length leaves her aunt's house and goes to stay with a Quaker family. This step threatens to separate her from Charlie, who now finds out for the first time that he is in love with her. Fortunately for him, Jessie soon comes to the end of her Quaker proclivities, and the lovers are happily married; but, as their income was only £500 a year, we cannot but hope that Mrs. Howard's conscience ultimately allowed her to substitute low dresses for "pearls and exquisite lace."

If "Uncle Angus" were a first attempt we should be able to give it considerable praise. As it is, it is a decidedly amusing novel; but the events are often improbable, and some of the characters something more than improbable. If Miss Nichols means to improve, she must draw more from observation and less from books. D. C. L.

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THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY
AND ITS PUBLICATIONS.

Early English Alliterative Poems (The Pearl, Cleanness, and Patience) in the West-Midland Dialect of the Fourteenth Century. Edited, with Notes and Glossarial Index, by Richard Morris, Esq., editor of Hampole's "Pricke of Conscience," &c., from the Cottonian MS., Nero, A x. (Trübner & Co.)

Arthur: a Short Sketch of his Life and History, in Early English Verse of the First Half of the Fifteenth Century. Edited from a MS. in the possession of the Marquis of Bath, by F. J. Furnivall, Esq., M.A., editor of Lancelot's and De Barron's "History of the Saint Graal," Map's "Queste del Saint Graal," &c. (Trübner & Co.)

TO a journal like our own, which endeavours to represent, in its different branches, the intellectual culture of England, the formation of a new society whose object is to bring under the notice of living Englishmen the words and thoughts of writers of our country long since dead cannot be matter of indifference. The association of men for such a purpose is in every way honourable. Their work brings them no money-gain: it enriches the minds of their nation. Every book they print casts a gleam of light behind it on the manners and customs, the amusements and serious pursuits, the thoughts and aspirations, of our ancestors, and enables us better to understand the England of to-day, so that we may make what it should be the England of to-morrow. Many such societies have come into being, some have died, others still run their course; but none have left us without some valuable addition to the stock of material which has been long accumulating for the future Macaulay, who, in some coming year, shall give us the picture we so much need of the manners and mind of Early England. Such a man would want every line of our early language printed. A dull poem on the Commandments might give him an illustration for Sabbath-breaking—"and now the Sunday openly: men hold all their cheping" (marketing)—a prosy treatise on Conscience supply a neat rebuke against drunkards—"when he weeneth drink that wine, that wine drinkth him"—and, in a repulsive-looking essay on Sin, he might find his forefathers' faults portrayed by an author, of whom the modern editor says:—

An intimate knowledge of the life of his countrymen is his too. The earl and knight at their robbery; the lord in his grasping; the rich man in his oaths, his adultery, his gluttony, and indulgence to his children in their insolent ways; the landowner in his covetousness; the priest with his "mare" or concubine; the judge and assizer in their harshness; the lawyer with his wicked counsels; the merchant in his usury; the trader at his tricks; the scold in her household; the flunkey of the time at his riotous supper; the poor in their sufferings; the bearded bucks; the beauties with their saffron wimples and whitened faces—all pass under his review, and none without those individualizing touches that show he had studied from the life. He must have seen the rich man's sluggardry, and heard his yawn on Sunday morning, as well as been witness of the shrew's airs, and "Veyes moy sy" (Look here to me), ere he could have put his sketches on paper. And one can fancy his monk's disgust at hearing men in church chattering, telling tales, asking where they could get the best ale, and thinking what much better fun it would be at the ale-house, or larking with girls, as well as share his indignation at seeing poor men kept shivering all day in the cold, crying at rich men's gates for alms, or getting them only with beating and abuse.

And, if, for the illustration of early manners, the printing of all our English manuscripts is wanted, how much more is this the case for the knowledge of our language? The ordinary educated Englishman's ignorance of the history of the forms of his own tongue is only not ludicrous because it is entire. Even to a society professedly learned, like the Philological (as a letter in our columns of October 22nd showed), a statement can be made—and printed, too, in its Transactions—

that, in an important text ab. 1300 A.D. (which was printed in 1847), during an interval which can scarcely have reached a century, "nearly all the Anglo-Saxon possessive inflexional genitives (of a MS. of ab. 1200 A.D.) became the pronominal possessives of the later version," and that then "the genitive in *s* was superseded by the pronoun *his*." If, we say, such a statement as this can be printed in a learned society's Transactions when there are, in the text referred to, 220 possessives in *es* against 94 in *his*, what must be the case with the ordinary student of English? He is simply at the mercy of any one who chooses to tell him anything he likes. Two authors of repute tell him that there are no traces of Danish influence in Early English, when they are there by the hundred; another that there were five dialects, when there were only three; a third that participles in *and* are only found in the Northern dialect, while they are plenty as blackberries in the Midland; and so on without end. In answer, the University man addressed can only say to himself:—"If it were but Latin or Greek, I should know something about it, and could judge for myself; but, as it's English, why I must ask the next German I meet: he's sure to know."

Again, as to our national hero Arthur, what accessible versions of our forefathers' legends about him have we? None under two guineas apiece; while many, like Southey's reprint of Caxton's Maleore, are five guineas; and others, like the Lincoln "Morte Arthure," are not now to be bought.

In alle londes wrote men of Arthoure,
His noble dedis of honoure;
In France men wrote and yet write:
Here haf we of him bot lite."

These lines of 1330 are true of 1864. We have "but little" of Arthur still, though the little we have seen of him in the club-books in the British Museum make us want a great deal more, even all that there is in England. It is really too bad that the only early book which students of moderate means can get about Arthur now is a modernized reprint of Maleore, entirely valueless for linguistic purposes.

We might go on to specify men and topics innumerable on which we want early texts; but we feel sure all our readers will admit that to them our early literature is not accessible, and yet that, without that literature, and in a moderately cheap form, our forefathers cannot be known as they should be by us. What, then, is the remedy for this state of things? Plainly this—to support vigorously any society which will print good texts, and let the public have them separately at a reasonable price. All printing clubs and societies hitherto have, we believe, kept their books to their own members; and in this have erred; for why should a man who cannot afford it be forced to buy five books for a guinea when he only wants one for four shillings? We are glad to see that the new Early English Text Society meets this requirement. It proposes to issue its texts to the public at 50 per cent. advance on the price to subscribers—a condition to which we do not object, as, with booksellers' discount, it only amounts to a fine of 30 per cent. on non-subscribers for not joining the Society, and thus enabling it to reckon with certainty on the funds available for each year's issue. The obtaining or not of subscribers is, of course, life or death to a printing body. The new Society also meets the other wants we have named; for it undertakes not only to print inedited MSS.—a pledge which it has well redeemed by starting with two unique ones—but to re-edit from the MSS. the best texts printed by former societies—as the Bannatyne Club's "Syr Gawayne" (now in the press), with its quaint tale of the Green Knight, who picks up his head when chopped off and walks away with it under his arm;—and also to reprint scarce printed books, "the probable practical value of a work to the student—whether linguistic, historic, sociologic, or literary—being the test the Committee will

adopt in determining the publications to be issued. The whole of the Arthur Romances* in English will, if possible, be produced."

These terms are wide enough to take in everything valuable in Early English. They would give us the whole of the noble Vernon MS. in the Bodleian, reprints of Lord Berners's Froissart, Maleore's Arthur, the Early English Gesta Romanorum, and many another book that makes our mouths water. If one out of twenty of the persons who read this paper could but feel the duty of supporting such an attempt to make public and popular our early literature, this Society might give us not only a corpus of Arthur legends, but a reprint, that we all might have on our shelves, of the series of chronicles by Holinshed, Hall, Hardyng, Grafton, Fabyan, &c., which finds place now only in rich men's libraries, and also a set of books illustrating the language and the manners of old England, in a form and at a price which no other nation in the world possesses. It is cheering to see among the present small list of subscribers the name of Alfred Tennyson. That is right. A society for printing all the English Arthur-texts would be no society without the Laureate's name; and the Committee have done well to acknowledge this by printing first a hitherto unknown verse Arthur of ab. 1440 A.D., from a MS. of the Marquis of Bath's. It is good, too, that an author who, like Mr. Ruskin, has done so much to open our eyes to the glories of cloud and herb should be found helping to spread the knowledge of the early stages of the tongue which his own writings have enriched. These are good leaders. Shall sufficient followers be wanting?

The second text which the Society has issued—Mr. Morris's three "Early English Alliterative Poems"—is one of the most valuable for its vocabulary and dialectical peculiarities that we have ever seen. It is somewhat hard to read; and a hasty perusal has not made us so familiar with the words that we can endorse Sir Frederic Madden's opinion that its "descriptions of the change of the seasons, the bitter aspect of winter, the tempest which preceded the destruction of Sodom and Gomorra, and the sea storm occasioned by the wickedness of Jonah, are equal to any similar passage in Douglas or Spenser."† But we can vouch for the value of its additions to our stock of Early English words, registered by the editor in a careful glossary of ninety-six double-columned pages; and we are very grateful to that gentleman for his able and interesting discussion of the Midland dialect, a subject much muddled hitherto. Mr. Morris has already treated the Northern dialect in his "Hampole;" will he treat the Southern for us, too, and some day re-edit Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle, and Dan Michel's Aienbite?—he is the man in all England to do the books. Hearne's edition of the former is from a bad MS.; and the Roxburghe Club edition of the latter is confined almost to the members of the Club. The fourth text promised by the Society this year is in type, we are told, and is a reprint of a rare poem of considerable interest by one Lauder,‡ a Scotch poet not mentioned by Irving in his History of Scottish Poetry, or by his editor, Carlyle, though the title of the present tract has found its way into Mr. Bohn's edition of Lowndes, through (we suppose) that Nestor of Scotch editors to

* The circular says:—"The next work of the Arthur series will probably be the prose Merlin, or 'The Early History of Arthur,' of the middle of the fifteenth century, which has hitherto lain in the Cambridge University Library unnoticed by bibliographers and editors of Arthur Romances. This will be edited from the MS. (believed to be unique) by F. J. Furnivall, Esq., M.A."

† We see, too, that Mr. Morris puts the unknown author of his Alliteratives before Robert of Brunne. We have not found in them anything so good as this:—

"Ne nothing is to man so dear
As woman's love in good man-nere.
A good woman is mannyas bliss,
There her love right and stedfast is.
There is no solace under heaven
Of alle that a man may neven (name)
That should a man so muche glew (rejoice)
As a good wom-an that loveth true;
Ne dearer is none in God-ys herd
Than a chaste woman with lovely word."

‡ The poem will be edited by Professor Fitz-Edward Hall, D.O.L., Oxon.

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whom Mr. Bohn expresses his obligations—Mr. David Laing. We believe that only two copies of the tract exist; and the Society are therefore more than justified in reproducing it; but we trust that in future years they will direct their attention rather to books illustrative of social manners, customs, and superstitions, than to literary rarities. Among the first works we hope to see reprinted is Harrison's invaluable Description of Britain. It is all very well to say that Government will do these social books; but the fact is that Government won't. As we noticed last week, they missed the original of the Cambridge Domesday forty years ago; they have missed it again now; and the Royal Society of Literature has to print it in their stead. Even if the terms of the Government grant were enlarged so as to include Literature—English books that thousands could enjoy, instead of History, most of it Latin, and much (so say some critics) genealogies from Adam, that only scores read—there would be a wide field for a society, like the one we are discussing, to work in.

We hope we shall not be thought to undervalue the very great service that the Government, the Master of the Rolls and his advisers, and the various printing clubs and societies have done heretofore to English history and literature: let them all go on and prosper: we wish only to show that there is room for another society with such distinctive features as the publication of all the Arthur texts, the re-editing of the best known club-books, the reprinting of the best rare tracts and dear books, and the issuing of all these separately to the public. We believe that the following statement in the Early English Text Society's first circular is true:—

A vast mass of our early literature is still unprinted, and much that has been printed has, as the late Herbert Coleridge remarked, "been brought out by printing clubs of exclusive constitution, or for private circulation only, and might, for all that the public in general is the better for them, just as well have remained in manuscript, being, of course, utterly unprocureable, except in great libraries, and not always there." It is well known that the Hon. G. P. Marsh, the author of "The Origin and History of the English Language," could not procure for use in his work a copy of "Havelok" for love or money; and the usual catalogue-price of "William and the Werwolf," or "The Early English Gesta Romanorum," &c., is six guineas, when the book should be obtainable for less than a pound. Notwithstanding the efforts of the Percy, Camden, and other societies and printing clubs, more than half our early printed literature—including the Romances relating to our national hero Arthur—is still inaccessible to the student of moderate means; and it is a scandal that this state of things should be allowed to continue.

We very willingly do our part in making the existence of the new Society known, now that it has produced its books, and in asking for it such support as shall enable it to benefit ourselves in common with all students of the English language and the English mind. Lest we should seem to be asking help for any private person's gain, or for a body without a habitation, we add from the Society's circular the following statement:—

As the editors' services will be gratuitous, the mere cost of production (as printing, paper, &c.) will be all for which the subscribers will have to pay; the extent of the Society's operations will thus depend on the amount of subscriptions obtained, and it is therefore the interest of each subscriber to endeavour to enlarge the list. The subscription is £1. 1s. a year, due in advance on the 1st of January, and should be paid either to the Society's bankers, the London and Birmingham Bank, 110, Cheapside, E.C., or to the Hon. Secretary, 53, Berners Street, London, W., to whom subscribers' names and addresses should be sent.

May we soon have our Arthur books complete, with Caxton's Maleore, Harrison, Lord Berners, and many another vigorous wielder of our English tongue in days of yore!

F. J. F.

THE CONVICT SYSTEM.

Our Convicts. By Mary Carpenter. Two Vols. (Longman & Co.)

WE were once present in a little gathering of friends all deeply but variously interested in the politics and social movements of the day. In the course of conversation, when one of the party had been enlarging on the probable consequences of Bishop Colenso's publication, another, a celebrated philanthropist (doubtless somewhat tired of the topic), remarked impressively, "What a pity it is that well-disposed persons should go on wasting their attention on this thing and the other, when, by giving the whole of their influence to the great cause of the age, they might doubtless be enabled to carry the question in the Legislature!" A chorus of inquiry naturally broke forth from each member of the little circle at this announcement—"What was the 'great cause of the age'?" Was it Poland? Was it the liberation of Venice and Rome? Was it the Colenso controversy? Was it Negro emancipation?" "Why," said the astonished philanthropist, "I mean the Convict System, of course!"

Perhaps, to some of our readers, it may seem that the convict system is not thus quite of course the great cause of the day—nay, they may be disposed to turn from it as, under no circumstances, a pleasant cause to undertake at all. Yet, if they will have patience to read Miss Carpenter's volumes, they will perforce be driven to confess that it is at least a most important and by no means uninteresting question—"Who and what are our convicts—and how can the production of convicts be henceforth checked?" The present writer, having for years had personal knowledge of the workings and results of that system of convict-management which Sir Walter Crofton originated and which Miss Carpenter defends, ventures to say that the wise words of that gifted lady are also something more than interesting—very true and practical likewise.

The first volume of Miss Carpenter's book treats of the following subjects:—"1. Who are our Convicts? 2. How are our Convicts made? 3. Principles of Convict Treatment; 4. The English Convict System; 5. Disposal of Criminals and Tickets of Leave; 6. Transportation." The second and concluding volume will develop at length the remedies which have been proved already to be efficacious in our country for the cure of the evils specified, and which, save for various unfortunate causes, would long ago have been tried in England. To the question "Who are our convicts?" Miss Carpenter responds by a mass of curious details taken from the notes of prison-chaplains, newspaper-cuttings, &c., demonstrating that, while a few convicts (like Mr. Roupell) are persons of the better classes who have fallen into crime from personal evil tendencies, the far greater number are wretches born and bred in families of the "perishing and dangerous classes," to whom crime came as naturally as would any honest trade to the children of industrious artisans. In one case she enumerates five members of one household who, between them, were fifteen times convicted; and, in another case, she gives the summary of sixteen members of one family group of pickpockets. What these offenders cost the public in a year appears almost incredible. The average earning of one "attached couple" of thieves amounted, by their own account, for years together, to £10 a week; and the "Band of Hope" above mentioned, during their extended career (reaching in one case to twenty years), are estimated to have mulcted the community to the enormous amount of £26,500—including £1500 for prison maintenance and cost of various convictions! Perhaps (supposing these figures to approach ever so distantly to truth) it would not be a short-sighted economy for us to take up the subject of convict-treatment with some degree of energy. The next inquiry Miss Carpenter urges is, How are convicts made? How do

men and women arrive at a condition of so much depravity? How far is society, directly or indirectly, to blame in this matter? She gives three cases which she considers typical—neglected children, children physically ill-formed and disposed by their parents' vices, and boys falling in with bad companions. A table of the results of a house-to-house visit to the homes of a number of boys in gaol at Walton brings out clearly the fact that, in the majority of cases, the parents of convicts are either criminal or vicious; and, where this is not the case, the boy or girl has been usually inveigled into crime by one of the regular "Fagins" whose houses adjoin those of the decent poor in all our great towns. Among the ways in which the hapless young lads and young women are lured to evil, the circulation of lives of distinguished thieves—such as "The Newgate Calendar Improved," "Dick Turpin and his Black Mare," &c.—is signalized by the gaol-chaplains. Perhaps, if daring, courage, and generosity could be presented to these poor young minds in some more healthy type than this Plutarch of the gallows, the result might be very different. Well does Miss Carpenter say:—

Though, in some cases, a succession of unfortunate circumstances, over which society had no control, may have carried on the victim from one step to another, plunging him into crime from which he was unable to extricate himself, and for which society could not be held *directly* responsible, yet, even in these cases, the prevalence of a more Christian spirit might have arrested the criminal in the earlier stage of his career. But, in the great bulk of the instances adduced, young persons have become hardened in guilt through causes for which society is *directly* responsible. The practice still continues of sending children to prison, though for so long a time it has been declared by the highest authorities worse than useless, and though the existence of reformatory schools authorized by Government renders this (demoralizing) incarceration unnecessary. The workhouses do not yet provide a true home for destitute children, who find themselves better cared for in the hands of justice than in the keeping of those misnamed their guardians. Dens of infamy are still tolerated in our cities. . . . The uncertainty of punishment, the glaring defects still existing in our criminal law, allure by impunity or slight punishment to repetition of crime. Society is responsible for all this.

For the "Principles of Convict Treatment" by which this great evil should be met Miss Carpenter refers to the wise and weighty words of the Recorder of Birmingham, whose further development (in no spirit either of sentimentality on one side or needless harshness on the other) is the topic of the remainder of her work.

"The principles," says Mr. Hill, "of secondary punishment may be reduced to three. First, the application of pain, with the intention of proving to the sufferer and to all who may learn his fate that the profits of crime are overbalanced by its losses. This is the *deterrent* principle. The second principle is what Bentham calls *incapacitation*. So long as the criminal remains in gaol society is protected from his misconduct—not by the deterrent operation of fear, but because he has for the time lost the power of offending. The third is the *reformatory* principle. . . . What is to prevent all these principles being combined in one and the same punishment? . . . Paradoxical as it may seem, reformatory treatment gives facilities for a freer use of the deterrent principle and also for that of incapacitation than can be otherwise obtained."

Miss Carpenter's work is written with the same calmness and perfect lucidity which distinguish her books on Juvenile Delinquents and Reformatories. Her observations, resulting from long years of arduous toil among our "perishing and dangerous classes," and from that deep insight only gained through moral sympathy, are all so valuable that we are tempted to regret that she has given us less of them than of the very curious extracts from newspapers and reports, by whose aid she corroborates her views. These extracts, however, form of themselves a series of *tableaux* of criminal life which it would not be easy to parallel in point of interest and singularity. F. P. C.

STORIES OF ADVENTURE.

The Bee-Hunters. By Gustave Aimard. Three Volumes. (Maxwell & Co.)

The Backwoodsman; or, Life on the Indian Frontier. Edited by Sir C. F. Lascelles Wrayall. One Volume. (Maxwell & Co.)

THE Red Indian of fiction and the Red Indian of fact are exceedingly unlike, especially the Red Indian of fiction. That swarthy sentimentalist, who is perpetually in the habit of prating commonplaces about the "pathless woods," the "father of waters," and the "happy hunting-grounds"—commonplaces which, if really uttered in the wilderness, would get him summarily kicked by the chief of his tribe—is about as like the actual savage as is the stage sailor, light-hearted and free, to the shrewd A. B. who drives a hard bargain with the master-mariner. To any one who knows the squalid dreariness of savage life, its degraded animalism, its low passions, its treacherous malignity, there is something really amusing about the conventional "White Eagle," "Bounding Bison," or "Brown Bear with three yellow hairs in his tail." The fellow is an impostor. He may utter the word "Wagh"—essentially a stupid observation—as often as he likes; he may call you, with the characteristic importunity of a poor relation, "my white brother;" he may assert, with utter disregard of veracity, that his "young men" are "numerous as the leaves of the forest;" but what he really wants is a bottle of rum. Give him that, and the creature is as happy as his low organization will permit. Some day or other, perchance, realism will take him up—will catch hold of him by the skirt of his buffalo-robe, or by the absurd tuft of hair to which he attaches so much importance, and will exhibit him as he is. He is very coarse and he is very stupid; and we shall at length perceive that there is nothing romantic about a Pawnee suffering from small-pox. Meanwhile, although he has not much interest for grown people, he is dear to the British boy; nor do we believe that he exerts at all an injurious influence upon that young gentleman. The backwoods and prairies of North America would still have a wild charm even if they were peopled by *crétins*. It is impossible to vulgarize the Far West. That grand roving instinct which sends the Briton abroad gets encouragement from books which otherwise would be merely worthless. Every Englishman needs elbow-room, and has in him a certain panting for the "bush" and "the open." Hence there will always be a ready hearing for any one who can talk about buffalo-hunting and beaver-trapping, burning prairies and foaming rapids, grizzly bears and prowling jaguars, bows and arrows, mustangs, mocassins, snowshoes, scalping-knives, totems, and paddles.

There are many ways, however, of gratifying this popular taste; and M. Gustave Aimard does not choose the best. In the first of all the Indian novels—those of Fenimore Cooper—there was a certain power of imagination, a certain unity of conception. Reading his description of American scenery, you learnt something besides botanical details, which are unintelligible to nine men out of ten, and not particularly interesting to the tenth; without verbose amplification he gave you the spirit, the character, the meaning of prairie and forest and lake. "The business of the artist," said Lamennais, "is not to reproduce nature but to interpret it;" and this function Cooper fulfilled with considerable success. Nor, though he, too, made capital out of the "noble savage," were his Indians mere pegs upon which to hang rhetoric. If, after all, he drew but one original character—that of Natty Bumppo, for Long Tom Coffin himself is only Natty Bumppo in a sailor's jacket, with a harpoon in his hand instead of a rifle—his delineations of the Redskins were, as a rule, manly and vigorous. Widely different from the "Delawares" and "Mohicans" of Cooper are the "Apaches" and "Comanches" of M. Gustave Aimard. The way in which these gentry talk French sentiment must be somewhat funny even to

the most juvenile readers. They can't try to cross a *barranca* without *blague*; they mouth a quasi-Gallic misanthropy even on the back of their *mustangs*; and the natural result is that you get to disbelieve in them altogether. That they should scalp an enemy or roast a prisoner is comparatively venial. In the language of that sweet bard Doctor Watts, "it is their nature to;" but they have really no right to analyze their emotions as though they were disappointed young Parisian poets about to indulge in the sombre luxury of charcoal. There is such a thing, after all, as local colour; and M. Aimard is vainly prodigal of stage properties—such as embroidered leggings—as long as he makes his *dramatis personæ* indulge in the lugubrious dialogue which is only adapted for morbid "romances of the affections." This sin of his, however, is not more prominent in the "Bee-Hunters" than in his other books. The story itself has a certain march and movement about it. It does not particularly bore you during perusal; and it may be forgotten, with agreeable ease, immediately afterwards. There is very little in it about "Bee-Hunting"—Doctor Cumming himself would find it difficult to get a quotation from it; but still, with a slight and gentle interest, it is possible to follow the adventures of the young Mexican girl and her love, Stoneheart. There is, of course, a villain—there are, in point of fact, several villains—but none of them are precisely terrible. "Tigercat," indeed, the chief ruffian of the book, is such a very blundering miscreant that the masculine reader soon conceives a healthy contempt for him, and feels inclined to speak of him, not as "Tigercat," but as "Tom," or "Pussy, pussy!" There are, however, "feats of equitation" which would astonish the late Mr. Ducrow or the present Miss Menken; there are antidotes for the bites of venomous reptiles which would probably startle the whole of the medical faculty; there are narratives of frenzied gambling unequalled in the annals of Crookford or Benazet; and there are methods of delivering oneself from a disagreeable confinement to which not even the brothers Davenport would be indifferent. Briefly, M. Gustave Aimard's book is quite up to his usual standard. That standard is not only far below Cooper's: it is below Captain Mayne Reid's, and below Gabriel Ferry's; but, after all, the tale is not a dull one. It is crowded with incident; some of its minor characters are drawn with a good deal of dramatic vigour and vivacity—in a word, the writer has a fair proportion of the French talent as a *raconteur*. Let us add that youth, wealth, virtue, and beauty have a capital innings, and that hoary-headed crime is ultimately bowled out. In proof whereof, let the following excerpt suffice, showing, as it does,

HOW THE TIGERCAT CAME TO GRIEF.

The Tigercat, forced to confess himself foiled, uttered a howl like a wild beast. "Aha!" cried he, beside himself with rage; is it to be thus? But it is not over yet!" He drew a poniard from his garments, and threw himself with all his force on Don Pedro, who, in his joy, had forgotten his presence. But an eye watched him. Don Luciano had silently stolen into the *jacal*, and noiselessly placed himself behind the bandit, whose every movement he carefully watched. As the Tigercat made his spring, he threw his arms around him, and pinioned him, in spite of the desperate efforts made by the miserable wretch. At the same moment the *vaquero* bounded into the *jacal*, knife in hand, and, before any one could arrest him, plunged it up to the hilt in his throat. "Not bad!" he exclaimed. "The opportunity was too good to lose! My *navajada* was never given so fairly! I hope this blow will gain me pardon for the others." The Tigercat remained standing a moment, swaying hither and thither, like a half-uprooted oak tottering to its fall. He rolled his eyes around him, in which rage still strove with the agony that made them haggard. He made one last effort to pronounce a terrible malediction, but his mouth contracted horribly; a stream of dark blood spouted from his yawning throat; he fell at his full length on the ground, where he writhed for a moment like a crushed reptile, to the inconceivable horror of the spectators. Then

all was still: he was dead; but on his face, distorted by the death-pang, unutterable hatred survived the life which had just quitted him. "Justice is done," said Manuela, with trembling accents. "It is the hand of God!" "Let us pray for him," said Don Pedro, falling on his knees. All present, impressed by this noble and simple action, followed his example, and knelt by his side. The *vaquero*, having finished his part in the scene, thought it prudent to disappear, but not without exchanging a glance of intelligence with the *capataz*, who smiled grimly under his gray moustache.

Thus endeth the story of the "Bee-Hunters;" and that of "The Backwoodsman" commences by the statement that "My block-house was built at the foot of the mountain chain of the Rio Grande, on the precipitous banks of the river Leone." In this locality, and in other picturesque neighbourhoods, "I," who do not mention my name, meet with a variety of adventures, which Sir C. F. Lascelles Wrayall, Bart., is good enough to edit, and several artists to illustrate. "I" encounter Comanche Indians, negro colonists, grizzly bears, Weicos, prairie-fires, Delawares, beavers, and Indian beauties; "I" disturb jaguars at their breakfast, discover a silver mine, hunt wild turkeys, meet with a bee-hunter who does not talk sentiment, and have plenty of adventures with bison-bulls, prairie-wolves, wild horses, and so forth. The editor does not give any clue to the authorship, but, from internal evidence, we should judge the book to be of German origin—a conjecture surely confirmed by its very quiet and unsensational conclusion. "The next day I rode to Macdonnell's, where I found everything prospering. His field had produced a rich maize-crop, and was now covered with beans, potatoes, melons, gourds, &c. . . . A large new patchwork quilt was thrown on his bed; over the mantelpiece was a handsome looking-glass, and by its side hung the framed portraits of three men, which are very frequently found in frontier houses, and by which the Americans do not pay themselves the worst compliment. They represent the greatest, the best, and the most useful men of our century—Washington, Alexander von Humboldt, and Liebig." Of the two books, we would specially recommend "The Backwoodsman" to boys, who will find in it a certain amount of the sweet Crusoe charm—the "Bee-Hunters" to young ladies, who will find it full of love, and to men, who will find it full of blunders. W. J. P.

M. VITET'S ESSAYS ON THE FINE ARTS.

Etudes sur l'Histoire de l'Art. Par L. Vitet, de l'Académie Française. Première Série:—Antiquité; Grèce; Rome; Bas-Empire. Deuxième Série:—Moyen Age. Troisième Série:—Temps Modernes; La Peinture en Italie, en France et aux Pays-Bas. Quatrième Série:—Temps Modernes; Arts Divers; Musique Religieuse—Musique Dramatique. Four Volumes. (Paris: Michel Lévy Frères.)

THIS interesting work does not profess to be a history of art, and still less a treatise on *Æsthetics*. It does not even pretend to form a complete whole. As the author informs us, it consists of articles written at various times and in divers periodicals during a course of more than thirty years, and now published collectively. Though these articles all possess this bond of affinity, that they relate to the history of Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Engraving, or Music, and though they are now grouped together as far as may be in chronological sequence, yet they were of course not originally produced with a view to any such subsequent juxtaposition. In short, they must be regarded rather as detached links in the history of art than as a perfect chain.

That M. Vitet has not devoted his life to the production of the chain itself is to us a matter of regret. Perhaps it may be thought, that in such a case something like the old proverb holds good, and, if the links are taken care of, the chain will take care of itself. But it is not so. "Art is long,

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though life is short;" and, when, in the forgetfulness of loving work, a man has spent long hours in the elaboration of a few links, and at last looks up from his labour with wearied eye and faltering hand, he finds that the day is far spent and the night is coming on apace. Such, indeed, is not quite the case with M. Vitet, who is fortunately yet in the pride of his intellectual vigour; but still, when upwards of thirty-five years of an author's literary life have gone by, he may well shrink from so vast an undertaking as a complete history of art, and declare that "it is to awaken and provoke the zeal of young and valiant spirits that he has gathered together these fragments—the incomplete sketches of a work he hopes will be carried out by them."

Nevertheless, we repeat our wish that, instead of calling on others to perform this great task, M. Vitet had from the beginning set his mind to performing it himself. The difficulties in the way of its execution, as we are, of course, fully aware, are almost insurmountable. They cannot be more clearly expressed, or the combination of intellectual gifts required for such an undertaking more succinctly described, than in M. Vitet's own words:—

It may thus be seen that we have nowise exaggerated: the task is truly formidable, the *ensemble* immense, the detail infinite. Subjects the most dissimilar, ideas the most incongruous, must be looked full in the face; the leading thought of every age, the spirit of every society, must be entered into; every school must be appreciated, and every taste consulted; the writer must adapt himself to every climate, understand all successes, even those of which he approves the least, and yet beware lest he suffers this kind of impartiality to degenerate into indifference: it is not merely a work of research, a labour of patience, an exact nomenclature, that can constitute a history of art—it must be an animated picture in which the author intervenes and takes his part, where, at the same time that he narrates, he directs and judges, where his own opinion, his tastes, and his preferences are frankly expressed.—Will there ever be found a vigorous spirit young and green enough, and yet sufficiently ripe in experience, to undertake so great a burden?

Remembering what a history of art to be in any sense satisfactory should be, and what varied developments of human thought and feeling it must perforce embrace, we should be tempted to answer M. Vitet's question in the negative. Certainly it would be difficult to point to any living writer and say "Behold the man." Mr. Ruskin is one of the ablest—in our own opinion, the ablest—of art-critics, and yet the constitution of his mind and genius unfits him for such a task. The fundamental principle of his philosophy is the oneness of truth—the conviction that there is but one right way of doing things, and that all other ways are wrong. The fundamental principle of his art-criticism is the supremacy of nature. To those schools which do not recognise and act upon this latter principle he is systematically unjust. Believing in the ascertainability of absolute truth, he is unsparing in his denunciations of those who differ from himself. This is very allowable no doubt, and it may be questioned whether, if the habit of Mr. Ruskin's mind had been more impartial, he would have been as eloquent as he is; but such a habit seriously disqualifies a man for passing a kindly and equitable judgment on artists placed in every variety of circumstance and acting on every variety of principle.

M. Vitet's intellect, though not so deep, seems to us much wider than Mr. Ruskin's. He is far more tolerant, and his sympathies, though less intense, are also less circumscribed. This it is which enables him in these volumes to enter into the spirit of the most varied subjects, and almost always with profit. Let the reader judge of his range by the following list*:—"Pindar and Greek Art;" the marbles found at Eleusis; "Project for a new Museum of Greek Sculpture;"

"Athens in the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Centuries;" the "Campana Collection" of antiquities, purchased a few years ago by the French Government, and placed in the Louvre; "The Ancient Monuments of the Town of Orange;" "The Christian Mosaics of Rome," a long and most interesting article; "Byzantine Architecture in France;" an elaborate archæological and architectural description of the Church of Notre-Dame at Noyon; "Christian Architecture in Judæa;" "The Architecture of the Middle Ages in England;" "Lombard Architecture;" "The Church of St. Cunibert at Cologne;" "The Historical Remains in the North-West of France;" the Museum, chiefly of Ecclesiastical Antiquities, at the Hôtel de Cluny; "The religious goldsmith's work of the Middle Ages;" "Art and Archæology," a speech delivered as president of the Society of Antiquaries of Normandy; a brief biographical notice of M. Charles Lenormant, the historian and archæologist; "Raphael at Florence," *à propos* of the fresco of the Holy Supper discovered in 1843 in what had been the Convent of St. Onofrio, and is now the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities; "Eustache Lesueur;" "The Dutch and Flemish painters;" the French artists David and Ary Scheffer; Paul Delaroche's picture at the Hémicycle des Beaux-Arts; Delacroix's last work in the Chapelle des Saints-Anges; some works of Hippolyte Flandrin; "Nièlles, or the First Steps in Engraving;" Marc Antonio Raimondi, the great engraver; "Art and Artists in the Sixteenth Century—the Clouets;" then, leaving these subjects, we have an article "On the Theory of Gardens," on the "Musical Notations of Europe," "Harmony in the Middle Ages," "A New Theory of the *Neuma*" in plain-song, "Theatre-music in France," and "Rossini and the Future of Music." In this last essay it sounds strange to hear M. Vitet considering the great Italian *maestro* as the legitimate continuator of Mozart's work and the *ne plus ultra* of musical science and elaboration. However, the article was written in 1828, and we suppose that Beethoven's fame had not yet fully made its way in France at that time.

So much for the contents of M. Vitet's four volumes; and the reader must forgive a somewhat dry enumeration in consideration of the fact that he can now judge for himself whether the subject-matter is likely to prove attractive to him. Of the power with which the various subjects are treated what we have already said will show that we think very highly; but tolerance of judgment, though perhaps the author's chief, is not by any means his only qualification for the task he has undertaken and for that still larger task which we strongly wish he had attempted. His feeling for the beautiful, in whatever form, is keen and true. He has the real artist's love of beauty for its own sake. He is a historian; and this is an indispensable requisite for the successful prosecution of studies so intimately connected with history. He is also—which is no less indispensable—an archæologist. But what perhaps has struck us more than anything in reading the various essays has been the power of tracing the influence of circumstances and events on schools of art, on artists, and on their works. M. Vitet is never satisfied with simply describing what he has seen. He regards a production of art as a phenomenon to be illustrated and accounted for. One or two instances will explain what we mean. In Raphael's fresco of the Holy Supper at Florence most art-critics would have seen merely a picture to criticize. M. Vitet does this, and more also. He endeavours, by the help of such data as have not sunk in the sea of time, to discover under what circumstances it was painted; and thus his article becomes a sketch of Raphael's youth. He shows us how the young man, in the first bloom of his genius, came to Florence animated with the archaic spirit of his master Perugino and determined to withstand the innovations of Michael Angelo,

Leonardo da Vinci, and the school of the Renaissance. He shows him to us painting, as if to try his own strength, in the solitude of the convent of St. Onofrio, where he would seem to have known that his work would remain almost unheard of and uncared for. The whole essay is a model of subtle constructive reasoning. In the article on Marc Antonio, again, we are made to feel the influence which Raphael exercised upon the engraver's skill and power. So also, in the "Christian Mosaics of Rome," we follow the decadence of art and trace the various influences of paganism, of the Byzantines and barbarians, and of the dawning Renaissance.

M. Vitet's style is well fitted to give expression to his thoughts. It is sober, clear, and forcible, seldom rising into eloquence, but never degenerating into commonplace. He is not a literary colourist like M. Théophile Gautier and Mr. Tom Taylor, or grandly rhetorical like Mr. Ruskin. He certainly does not possess the fierce energy of Mr. Palgrave. But, though the merits of his writing are of a different order, he not unfrequently falls upon a happy and luminous expression—as when, for instance, he describes a certain figure of Delaroche as representing "the genius of the art of the Middle Ages, of that sublime innovator which discovered the road to the beautiful with no other guide but Faith." Again, in the article on the life and works of Ary Scheffer, M. Vitet's personal regrets for his lost friend impart a warmer glow of feeling to his usually unimpassioned prose.

The mention of Ary Scheffer reminds us that there are one or two points on which we must differ from M. Vitet—reminds us, because he is far too indulgent, not to say eulogistic, towards that artist's excessively weak colouring powers. But our worst grievance is on the subject of the essay on English art in the Middle Ages. Here, in opposition to his usual habits, our author really is not just. He starts by declaring that "What is astounding, what is almost miraculous, what one gives up all attempt to understand when one has seen the public buildings which the English erect at the present time, is that, at any period of their history, they should have been able to construct those grand and beautiful churches which, as we shall presently see, rival the noblest creations of Christian art in the rest of Europe." This anomaly, however, though inexplicable, is partly explained by M. Vitet. Architecture, he says, came to us with the Normans; and he evidently thinks that, in its nobler productions, it has always been rather a plant of exotic growth. The only style which he frankly concedes to be "really and exclusively English" is the Perpendicular or Tudor Gothic. This he has, of course, no difficulty in proving to be a degenerate style, though he affirms that we islanders, in our ignorance, prefer it. Now the excuse for all this, and much more to the same purpose, is that it was written more than twenty-five years ago; and Heaven forbid that we should think of defending the street or ecclesiastical architecture of the reigns of George and William IV.! Even now the aspect of the "villa residences"—whether desirable or undesirable—that spring up like mushrooms in every suburb is not in general such as to gladden the hearts of those who attach some importance to the beautiful and the picturesque. Yet, when all has been said and done, we do not think it is for the improvers of Paris to cast too many stones at us. When a city has played such a part in the world's affairs, its rulers and inhabitants should understand that it belongs as much to the past as to the present. Old associations are ill compensated for by miles of ornate but monotonous shop-fronts. The streets, indeed, are certainly wider and more geometrically arranged than they used to be, and vast sums have unquestionably been expended; but we are sorry that we cannot regard the amount of architectural beauty and invention developed in these processes as entitling France to look down from too high

* Some of these articles we remember to have seen in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. Others had already been republished in M. Vitet's "Études sur les Beaux-Arts and sur la Littérature." Others, again, had been published in a separate form.

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a pinnacle upon the rest of mankind. Again, our present Gothic architects, with Mr. Gilbert Scott at their head, are certainly anything but inferior to their foreign rivals. We have long ceased to regard *Perpendicular* as the noblest form of Gothic; but we still do not see that it has any reason to stand ashamed before the contemporary *Flamboyant* of Continental nations. And, as concerns M. Vitet's implied opinion that mediæval art in England was merely an acclimatized exotic, we must protest against it as utterly unfounded. That art was the result of certain influences of time and race—influences which we experienced in common with the greater part of Christendom. In short, we think that, if M. Vitet were to rewrite his essay on "English Architecture in the Middle Ages," he would see cause to speak about us more respectfully in the past and more hopefully in the future. F. T. M.

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW.

THE new number of the *Quarterly* is even less political than the *Edinburgh*, which we noticed last week. Of the nine articles which it contains not one is devoted to a party question, or even to the summing up of party progress. It draws no lessons from the past, and commits itself to no anticipations of the future. The "masterly inactivity," in fact, which characterizes the policy of Conservatism is reflected in the pages of its principal organ. The omission is a mistake, as far as the interests of the party are concerned; for, though leaders may choose to be quiescent, followers require to be encouraged, and, in order to be kept efficient as a force, demand, if not actual campaigning, at any rate drilling, reviewing, sham-fighting—some kind of movement to keep alive their ardour, display their discipline, and parade their strength. Far be it from us to assert that the army of Lord Derby is weak because it remains in quarters and refrains from flaunting its banners in the popular breeze. Reticence is the most useful tactic of generalship upon certain occasions, and the *mot d'ordre* may have gone forth to make no sign. As usual, literature is a gainer by the absence of politics, and the topics treated are of as general interest as may well be.

The freshest, if not the most popular in subject, is the opening article upon Cochin-China and Cambodia.

"Hitherto," says the writer in his opening remarks, "our knowledge of Cochin-China, its people, geography, and general resources, has been limited and superficial; while the accounts that have reached us of missionary enterprise and warlike operations conducted by the French in that country have been meagre and mysterious; and it has always been difficult to understand the nature of the drama enacted in this secluded part of South-Eastern Asia, which has recently terminated in the annexation of Lower Cochin-China to the French possessions in the East. Occasionally the curtain has been uplifted, and we have beheld the representatives of France high in favour at the semi-barbaric court of the King at Hué, instructing the mandarins and soldiers in the Western art of war and the construction of military defences against the incursions of revolutionary chiefs. This has been followed by glimpses of missionaries barbarously tortured and murdered by the servants of a monarch hostile to Christians; while a scene has not long since closed in which the tricolour flag was seen emerging from clouds of smoke over the citadel of Saigon. Having followed up this success with further hostilities against the government and with the subjugation of the inhabitants, the conquerors boast that they have laid the permanent foundation of the 'French East Indies,' where the Gallic eagle is to rise as a phoenix from the ashes of the old Annamese city."

Whatever may have been the intention of the French in former days as to cultivating a close connexion with the Annamese, the reviewer has no doubt that, from their first hostile landing in Cochin-China, they intended to secure a permanent footing in the country. And, since that period, he adds, the work of colonization has advanced *pari passu* with that of conquest. Of Cambodia,

or Camboja, we have a pleasant account, drawn from the work of the late M. Mouhot, an enterprising naturalist who explored that country while his countrymen were fighting in Cochin. Cambodia was once an independent country; but it has fallen a prey successively to Cochin and Siam (as appears from a MS. narrative drawn up by the king of the latter country), and had not a tenth part of its former area when the French, having subjugated the lower part of Cochin, turned their attention to this territory. Cambodia is now under the protection of France, which has very handsomely made the viceroy a king, with the consent of his majesty of Siam; and the French have not only some very eligible land in Udong, the capital, but they have obtained by treaty the exclusive right to have a diplomatic representative at the court, empowered to give a veto against any other foreign envoy who may be considered inimical to the interests of his government. The only great hindrance to the prosperity of the colony at Cochin—which is making rapid advances—is said to consist in the dissensions among the French themselves, in consequence of the system of administration, which has been placed in the hands of naval officers—the least qualified persons who could be selected for a settlement of the kind. The experiment of governing Algeria like a garrison has not been singularly successful, and the idea of governing Cochin like a ship does not seem more promising. But an empire in the East is not to be made in a day, nor founded at all except upon a succession of failures, which "our lively neighbours" are in the pleasant position of having all before them.

"Workmen's Benefit Societies" is an elaborate account of the benefit societies of workmen. It bristles with statistics, some of which will take readers by surprise. The verdict is highly favourable, the conclusions of the writer being that the associations in question—

have already effected much good, and are capable of effecting still more. At all events they furnish an admirable foundation on which to build up something better. They have practically taught self-reliance, and cultivated amongst the humblest classes habits of provident economy. They began their operations before there was any science of vital statistics to guide them; and, if they have made mistakes in mutual assurance, they have not stood alone. Looking at the difficulties they have had to encounter, they are entitled to be judged charitably. Good advice, given them in a kindly spirit, will not fail to produce good results. The defects which are mixed up with them are to be regarded as but the transient integument which will most probably fall away as the flower ripens and the fruit matures.

"Venetian State Papers" is a very interesting article, containing some curious illustrations of history drawn from the official "Calendar," edited by Mr. Rawdon Brown, the only fault found with which is that it does not answer the purpose of a calendar, but is a complete and discursive work. The writer's warning against the continuance of this mode of dealing with the public records—as defeating the intended object—will, it is to be hoped, meet with the attention it deserves.

The article which follows, upon Dr. William Smith's Dictionary of the Bible, does all honour to the editor for the manner in which he has accomplished his difficult and delicate task.

"It is now proved," says the writer, "that a great Encyclopædical Dictionary can be written, embracing without reserve every topic connected with the exoteric aspect of the Bible; embodying differences and even divergences of opinion on matters of great importance; full, wherever certainty can be attained; at all times scholarlike and accurate, and with a novelty, originality, and freshness never meeting before in the same book. Nor is this all. In spite of difficulties which seemed all but insuperable, and with a congeries of sixty-eight writers, bound by no tie and fettered by no other restraints than those of learning and good sense, Dr. Smith's work may be read not only without injury, but with profit and delight, by every commonly-educated Christian."

"The Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Sanitary State of the Army in India" forms the subject of the next paper. Its importance needs no more comment than the fact that sixty out of every thousand of our British troops in India perish annually, while the rate among those serving elsewhere is only thirty-three out of the same number. The writer approves generally of the report of the Commissioners, but is even less tolerant than they of the use of stimulants among the men. Food he recognises as a very important question. It should be light and digestible, and consist as little as possible of salt rations. For the rest he declares—and all "Indians" who have considered the subject will agree with him—that pure water and good drainage and ventilation are more important elements of health than any. Even hill-stations 6000 feet above the level of the sea have been made pestiferous places for want of attention to such matters. He proposes a special sanitary officer to look after all requirements of the kind, and recommends the most despotic pressure from Government to secure their enforcement upon native and European.

A thoroughly literary article is refreshing after so much practical discussion; and the "Life of Lockhart," though not a novel subject, will well bear reading even in these days. It contains many pleasant notices of "the period" as well as the man; but neither have we time to follow. The following, however, in reference to the establishment of the *Quarterly* and *Blackwood*, is worth quoting as a warning to any political party which may be careless enough to neglect the cultivation of public opinion:—

Six years after the first appearance of the *Edinburgh Review*, the *Quarterly Review* (in the establishment of which Sir Walter Scott took a leading part) proved that the resources of learning and genius were—in England at all events—at least as accessible to the Tory party as to their antagonists. But, while the *Edinburgh Review* continued to have a considerable hold on the Scottish mind, the Tories of Scotland did not possess a single local periodical through the columns of which their own opinions might be defended; and—which is the strangest incident of all—it seems never to have occurred to them that it might be judicious to establish one. The battle which they fought was therefore fought at great disadvantage. There is a pride of intellect, the appeal to which is of far more force, especially among the young, in creating or confirming opinion, than considerations of mere personal interest; and the political party which overlooks that fact, or refuses to be guided by it, never fails in the end to suffer for its stolidity. To that pride of intellect the Whigs had appealed, and appealed with undeniable success. Had they only known how to deal wisely by this advantage in maintaining a tone of moderation, and of something like candour in dealing with their opponents, their success might have been even more complete, and certainly more enduring than it was. But they fell into the snare which is laid for all who make an early start in the race of life; they lost their own heads, and they brought about a strong reaction. There had been started in April 1817 a monthly magazine, of which Mr. Blackwood was the publisher and chief proprietor. It was conducted by gentlemen of undeniable personal worth, but of dull intellect, and it dragged on for a while a sickly existence, after the manner of Scotch magazines in general. If it had any political leaning at all, it leant towards the views of the dominant literary faction; but its staple commodities were heraldry, tales, and biographical sketches, put forth in a style of no point or brilliancy. Few people read it all, fewer still spoke about it after they had done so. So ran the first six numbers; but, on the appearance of the seventh, people suddenly opened their eyes. Three sharp papers, pregnant with literary heresy, were among the articles in that number. One presumed to dispute the dicta of the *Edinburgh Review* on what was then a great Colonial question; another quizzed the gentlemen who had heretofore been accepted as the founders of the magazine; and a third assailed, in terms of unmeasured censure, certain poets of the school called Cockney, whom the *Edinburgh* had taken under its special protection. Besides these there was the opening article, a vigorous and severe critique on Coleridge's "Biographia Litteraria,"

with a set of witty verses, notes, as they were called, to correspondents, the like of which, we will venture to say, never confronted the title-page of any work. If a shell had exploded in Prince's Street, the effect would have been less startling to the multitude.

We would willingly linger with the article upon Photography; but space forbids. The writer's estimation of the art—as an art in the high sense of the term—deserves attention, however, as there is a popular delusion on the other side. “Those who talk of photography,” he says, “as something purely mechanical would be surprised to know how much the attainment of this excellence depends upon natural gift, adroit manipulation, long experiences, and careful study of nature. Such results are as much the work of the artist who produces them as the results that are produced on canvas. They depend quite as much upon individual skill and perception of beauty.” This we believe to be no exaggeration. A little knowledge of the mechanical process will enable a practised idiot to produce a bad photograph; but almost any amount of cultured intelligence and natural taste may be employed in the production of a good one.

“Dr. Newman's *Apologia*” is a subject which has been already amply discussed in these columns. We need only remark of the article upon it that the reviewer writes of Dr. Newman in a spirit of kindly sympathy and strong personal admiration, and draws some lessons from the work which, he says, it is calculated to instil into members of our own communion. “Pre-eminently it shows the rottenness of that mere Act-of-Parliament foundation upon which some now-a-days would rest our church.”

“How,” he asks further on, “could a national religious Establishment which should seek to rest its foundations—not on God's Word; on the ancient Creeds; on a true Apostolic ministry; on valid Sacraments; on a living, even though it be an obscured, unity with the Universal Church, and so on the presence with her of her Lord, and on the gifts of His Spirit—but upon the critical reason of individuals, and the support of Acts of Parliament—ever stand in the coming struggle? How could it meet Rationalism on the one hand? How could it withstand Popery on the other? After such a fatal change its career might be easily foreshadowed. Under the assaults of Rationalism it would year by year lose some parts of the great deposit of the Catholic faith. Under the attacks of Rome it would lose many of those whom it can ill spare, because they believe most firmly in the verities for which she is ready to witness. Thus it might continue until our ministry were filled with the time-serving, the ignorant, and the unbelieving; and, when this has come to pass, the day of final doom cannot be far distant. How such evils are to be averted is the anxious question of the present day.

This would be no place to answer the question, even if the answer were at hand.

NOTICES.

The Holy Roman Empire. By James Bryce, B.A., Fellow of Oriel College. (Oxford: T. and G. Shrimpton; London and Cambridge: Macmillan & Co. Pp. 176.)—THIS is the “Arnold Prize Essay” for 1863; and, notwithstanding the suspicion with which prize essays in general are regarded, we are constrained to say that the “Holy Roman Empire” is a scholarly performance, lacking neither the accuracy nor the dignity of history. Considering, indeed, the large space over which Mr. Bryce travels—from the ninth century to the nineteenth—he has dashed in the leading figures of his canvas in a very masterly way. The grouping is as natural as it is effective, and we can point out at once Charles the Great, Otho the Great, Henry IV. and Gregory VII., Barbarossa and Charles V., by their own special surroundings as well as by their individual likenesses. This fitness of parts, appropriateness of costume and harmony of colour, thorough realization of the time and temper of the period, as well as of the personal aspect of the place, were not always thought necessary elements in the compiling of history; but, nearly forty years ago, Augustin Thierry, in his “Conquest of England by the Normans,” showed us how effectively such elements could be used, and we have had the sense

ever since to follow his example. It is true that the great Frenchman got his idea, as he himself acknowledges, from our own Walter Scott; but the successful working of that idea out of the region of romance into the more definite fields of history is entirely Thierry's. Wherever he can, then, Mr. Bryce, in his rapid but brilliant sketch, has followed in the footsteps of those historians whom we recognise as masters; and, like them, he lingers here and there that his readers may more thoroughly enjoy the scene, and treasure up the more effectually the form and feature of the time. His way of looking at history, too, is as satisfactory and pleasing as the eloquence with which he tells you what it is he sees; his philosophy, in other words, is as sound as his scholarship.

Tossed on the Waves: a Story of Young Life. By Edwin Hodder, author of “Memories of New Zealand Life,” “The Junior Clerk,” &c., &c. (Jackson, Walford, and Hodder. Pp. 349.)—MR. HODDER writes in a pleasant sparkling way, and has the knack of carrying his reader merrily with him to the close of the volume. He has noticed Nature in many of her moods, and over a wide and varying space; and the consequence is vivid description and faithful portraiture. But he allows the religious element to enter too largely into his mimic world, and the “divine interposition” idea is almost absurdly prominent. The story is that of the fortunes of two school-boys who emigrate. The one is pious and clever, and goes with his father to Australia; but, on the voyage, the father, who is also very “good,” is washed overboard and drowned. By-and-by the other boy, who is very clever but not very pious, the author makes commit some mysterious crime, which necessitates his emigrating also. He is, of course, pursued by remorse, and leads, for a long time, a very miserable life. Repentance comes to him, however, in the fulness of time; and, when the author has thoroughly impressed us with this, he allows him to die “happy” in a shipwreck. The “good boy” also, as a matter of course, prospers, marries, and is happy.

Charmione: a Tale of the Great Athenian Revolution. By Edward A. Leatham, M.A., M.P., Fellow of University College, London. Third Edition, with Historical Introduction. (Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. Pp. 280.)—MR. LEATHAM, in his “Charmione,” has done for Athens what Mr. Whyte Melville, in his “Gladiators,” has done for Rome. The latter, however, shows us the imperial city in the days of her corruption, with a Vitellius for an Augustus, and the sorry sights of the arena instead of the grander combats of the forum, while the author of “Charmione” has chosen the brightest epoch in the story of Greece, and leads us back once more to the glorious age of Pericles. Our author has spared no pains in mastering the spirit of the period he would depict; and he has brought to his task a mind deeply imbued with the lore of Greece, and capable, from its artistic and poetic instincts, of re-creating for us the past, and familiarizing us with Socrates and Plato. It seems a mightily bold venture to make, when one considers it—this choosing the grandest handful of men ever congregated on one little spot of earth, and, five-and-twenty centuries after their death, showing us, as in a glass, what manner of men they were—how they lived, and moved, and loved, and spake, and made war. And yet this is precisely what Mr. Leatham has attempted to do; and we rejoice to see, from the imprint of “third edition” on the title-page of “Charmione,” that his scholarship and research, as well as his combining and creative faculties, have been appreciated, and that the public think his attempt has not been in vain.

The Dean's English: a Criticism on the Dean of Canterbury's Essays on the Queen's English. By G. Washington Moon, Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. Third Edition. (Hatchard & Co. Pp. 161.)—THIS new edition of Mr. Moon's book is beautifully printed, and contains several additions; and those caring about the Queen's English, as expounded by Mr. Moon, will be delighted to possess so excellent a copy. It must be very gratifying to the public, and especially to the friends of the Dean of Canterbury, to learn, as they will in the preface, that Mr. Moon has at last had the honour of becoming personally acquainted with the Dean of Canterbury, and that, although he “cannot think very highly of him as an English scholar, he sincerely respects him as a man.” The subject discussed by the Dean of Canterbury and Mr. Moon has already been treated at considerable length in our pages, and we must therefore content ourselves with calling attention to this improved edition of Mr. Moon's book.

Faith and Life: Readings for the Greater Holy days and the Sundays from Advent to Trinity. Compiled from Ancient Writers, with Notes on Eternal Judgment and Christ's Sacrifice. By William Bright, M.A., Fellow of University College, Oxford. (Rivingtons.)—MR. BRIGHT is very zealous for “dogmatic” orthodoxy, and has an evident taste for extracting and compiling. His book consists of passages from the Fathers, translated and sometimes abridged, so that we cannot be quite sure that we are reading the actual words of the ancient writers. We almost wonder that Mr. Bright can bring himself to use the writings of St. Gregory Nazianzen, whom he admits to have been not quite steadfast on the subject of endless torments. Patristic reading, as this book leads us to remark, must have a discomposing influence on the minds of many young students. One of two effects is very likely to be produced upon a young man who comes to the study of the Fathers without much previous knowledge. Either he will be painfully disappointed and do those great divines injustice, or, if he is not independent enough to be repelled by what is fantastical and strange, and has not the maturity of judgment which would enable him to exercise discrimination, his mind will be warped into a religious style, out of harmony with modern habits of thought and expression, and therefore dangerously likely to be unreal.

The Army Lists of the Roundheads and Cavaliers; containing the Names of the Officers in the Royal and Parliamentary Armies of 1642. Edited by Edward Peacock, F.S.A. (Hotten. Pp. 67.)—ALL genealogists and topographers will welcome this reprint heartily; for, to every name of note occurring in either list, Mr. Peacock has added explanatory notes. The tract itself is preserved in the Bodleian library, and it is doubtful whether another exists. This little work may be regarded as a prelude to his more serious labours on “The Biography of the Civil War,” on which subject he solicits the aid of the public in the way of loans of Civil War tracts, or any other documents relating to the period. The volume is printed in antique type, and got up with unusual taste.

Directorium Pastorale: Principles and Practice of Pastoral Work in the Church of England. By the Rev. John Henry Blunt. (Rivingtons.)—MR. BLUNT possesses, in an eminent degree, the practical sense which qualifies him for composing a handbook of parochial management. This manual is really suited to the circumstances amidst which a clergyman of the present day has to work, and contains a great deal of very useful information and sensible advice. Naturally, it treats clerical work too much as a piece of mechanism. No clergyman can really manage his parishioners on system as books of this kind expect him to do; and the ways of clergymen who endeavour to “work” their parishes to perfection, whilst they excite a smile in the observer or reader, must be apt to worry the people who are worked. But, in their place, good practical methods are very useful, and well worth learning; and Mr. Blunt will have the thanks of many young clergymen for the hints he gives them. As regards doctrine, Mr. Blunt is devotedly loyal to the Church of England, and expresses moderate High-Church sentiments; but practical work is evidently his forte rather than doctrine.

Notes on the Valleys of Piura and Chira, in Northern Peru, and on the Cultivation of Cotton therein. By Richard Spruce, Ph.D.—*Report on the Expedition to procure Seeds and Plants of the Cinchona Succirubra, or Red-bark Tree.* By Richard Spruce, Esq.—THESE two important pamphlets are printed by Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode. Mr. Spruce seems just the man to send upon an exploring expedition; and the wonderful amount of information and absolute fact he has managed to convey to us in his two pamphlets amply proves it. Whoever wishes, in fact, to know about the topography, mineralogy, climate, vegetation, and the general agricultural capabilities, especially as applied to cotton-growing, of the region overshadowed by the mighty Chimborazo will do well to consult the pages of Mr. Spruce. The narrative of his expedition to procure seeds and plants of the red-bark tree is most interesting; and, from the manner of his proceeding, it can easily be seen that he possesses the true scientific method of approaching and handling his subject.

The Young Heiress. A Novel. By Mrs. Trollope, author of “The Widow Barnaby,” &c.—MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL do well to give Mrs. Trollope's clever novels a place in their Railway “Select Library.” There is a freshness about “The Young Heiress” which makes it pleasant reading by way of change now that almost every novel of the day is more or less of a sensational cast.

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Our Eternal Homes. By a Bible Student. (Pitman. Pp. 183.)—ALTHOUGH our author is a believer in what he calls "Spiritism"—spirit-rapping, as commonly understood—and thinks, in some of the manifestations at least, spiritual agency is at work, he can produce Bible authority for every statement he makes about Heaven; and, although some of his deductions are not altogether in harmony with modern notions in their most advanced phase, they are in perfect keeping with much of what the Church teaches or implies. "Guardian Angels," "The Growth of Infant Angels," "Heavenly Scenery," "What is Heaven?" "Do the Departed forget us?" are all touched upon by our author argumentatively and seriously, and his conclusions are, as we have said, in unison with what the Bible teaches. The book is dedicated to the memory of his mother.

The Little Woodman and his Dog Cesar. By Mrs. Sherwood, author of "Little Henry and his Bearer." (Houlston and Wright. Pp. 112.)—THIS is an elegant reprint of a very old favourite. As little boys we never looked into the probability, or rather improbability, of Mrs. Sherwood's religious stories; it was sufficient for us that they were lively and stirring, and that we could gallop through them delightedly to the end. Her good boys are not, like many of our modern religious paragons, unconscionable prigs and arrant sneaks, but healthy, hearty boys, who do their duty and say their prayers. The present edition is bravely illustrated, and is sure to become a favourite.

Poems. By John Le Gay Breton, M.D., author of "The Travels of Prince Legion, and other Poems," &c., &c. (Sampson Low & Co. Pp. 159.)—THE author dates from Sydney, and dedicates his volume to his mother. He divides his pieces into "Songs of the Affections," "Songs of Devotion," and "Miscellaneous Poems." We prefer the first; and, although there is no special poetic faculty exhibited in any of the verses, there is much natural tenderness and no little observation. Of his miscellaneous pieces we prefer "Auld Nick's Dead," on account of the healthy humour in it.

Poems. By L. F. T. (Virtue Brothers & Co. Pp. 35.)—THERE is much crudeness of style in this little collection; but here and there there crops up a smart idea in a prettily-rounded thought. The lines on the "Death of a Child" are very happily conceived.

The Will o' the Wisps; or, St. John's Eve in the Forest. By the Authoress of "The Princess Ise." Translated from the German. (Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy. Pp. 163.)—ONE of those fanciful little tales in which the Germans delight, and in the telling of which they so greatly excel. Here we have all how a forest looks, and how things in a forest talk on a midsummer night. The stories told by seventeen Will o' the Wisps—how the bride's white rose fell to pieces in the ball-room—how a Will o' the Wisp went to sea in an acorn-cup—"how the fête went in the park, and how Ulrich lost a flower which Linneus had never heard of," and much more of a similarly charming kind.

La Revue des Deux Mondes, 15th October, 1864.—THE *Revue des Deux Mondes* has but one defect, and that is a blemish which many people may regard as a beauty: it really comes out too often. The receipt of some two-hundred-and-fifty large closely-printed pages of solid matter once a fortnight almost tempts the subscriber occasionally to cry "Hold, enough!" Scarcely has he had time to dispose of what may have interested him in one number before another comes pressing upon its heels. And it is but seldom that he can find rest in this species of literary treadmill, because the issue of a number in which there is nothing important, either on account of its subject or its authorship, is a matter of very rare occurrence. The number we have before us is one of fair average interest. It contains the sixth section of a novel, "La Confession d'une Jeune Fille," by the indefatigable George Sand, as also the continuation of a very elaborate series of papers on Maurice of Saxo, by M. Saint-René Taillandier; the two new editions of Madame Roland's Memoirs, lately noticed in THE READER, from the text of an article on the subject by M. Charles de Mazade. In an able and temperate review of the actual political situation of France M. Charles de Rémusat discusses the position taken up by England and France in the Danish question, and the present necessity of introducing liberal reforms in the government of his native country. As regards the former, he thinks that we in particular cut a very poor figure, and that France did not come out of the transaction in much better plight; but, nevertheless, he does not retrospectively advocate a war policy. As regards the latter, he, of course, con-

siders that France is ripe for greater freedom than she enjoys, and advises the ruling powers to give up gracefully what they will soon be compelled to give up, whether they like it or not. Besides these, there is an article on "The Physical History and the Colonization of Australia," a defence of that spiritualist philosophy of which M. Cousin is the apostle, and a review of a new opera by M. Mermet—"Roland à Roncevaux." This last is from the pen of M. Blaze de Bury, who would seem to have replaced M. Scudo as musical critic to the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. The greater portion of M. Forcade's "Chronique de la Quinzaine" is very naturally and properly taken up with an examination of the French and Italian Convention, which he regards as equally advantageous to Italy, France, and the Pope. The *Revue* is not noted for its too general approbation of imperial policy; and the government may congratulate itself upon having found so able and disinterested a defender.

FROM Miss Emily Faithfull we have received four little stories of a superior tract order, and which we can heartily recommend. They are named respectively—*Flowers Replaced*, by the Author of "Angels Ethereal and Material;" *Angels and Sweet Peas*; *Sunshine or Clouds*, partly addressed to British sailors; *The New Shoes*; or, *What a Little Child may do*. They are all by the same author, and are written in such a way as will insure their being read—that is, they are written cleverly. If all religious stories were in a similar vein there would be little to complain of in our tract-literature.—We have received the current number of the *Southern Monthly Magazine*; the *Reliquary*: a depository for precious relics, legendary, biographical, and historical; the *Dental Cosmos*, a monthly record of dental science; and the *Continental Monthly*, a New York publication devoted to literature and national policy.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ABBOTS CLEVE; OR, CAN IT BE PROVED? A Novel. Three Volumes. Post 8vo., pp. 912. *Tinsley*. 31s. 6d.
ADAMS (Rev. H. C., M.A.) Indian Boy. With Illustrations. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 153. *Routledge*. 2s.
ADAMS (Rev. H. C., M.A.) White Brunswickers; or, Reminiscences of Schoolboy Life. With Illustrations. Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii+416. *Routledge*. 5s.
ATKIN. Memoirs, Miscellanies, and Letters of the late Lucy Atkin, including those addressed to the Rev. Dr. Channing, from 1826 to 1842. Edited by Philip Hemery Le Breton. Post 8vo., pp. xxviii+440. *Longman*. 8s. 6d.
AINSWORTH (William Harrison). Guy Fawkes; or, the Gunpowder Treason. An Historical Romance. New Edition. Fcap. 8vo., sd., pp. 336. *Routledge*. 1s.
AKERMAN (J. T.) Legal Guide; or, Instructions to Landlords, Tenants, and Lodgers. Fifteenth Edition, revised. Cr. 8vo., sd. *Pettitt*. 6d.
ALEXANDER. The Sunday Book of Poetry, selected and arranged by C. F. Alexander. (Golden Treasury Series.) Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii+314. *Macmillan*. 4s. 6d.
ARTHUR MORLAND. A Tale for Boys. By L. S. N. 18mo., pp. 128. *Morgan*. 1s.
BENNETT. The Surprising, Unheard-of, and Never-to-be-surpassed Adventures of Young Munchausen. Related and Illustrated, by C. H. Bennett, in Twelve Stories. Cr. 4to., pp. 107. *Routledge*. 5s.
BERKELEY (Hon. Granville F.) My Life and Recollections. With Portrait. Two Volumes. 8vo., pp. xxii+741. *Hurst and Blackett*. 30s.
BOOK OF JUVENILE POETRY. Containing Historical, Narrative, Descriptive, and Sacred Pieces. Selected from the best Authors. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 384. *Nelson*. 3s. 6d.
BOURDILLON (Rev. F., M.A.) Bedside Readings: being Short Portions of Holy Scripture, with a Simple Commentary, chiefly for the Use of those who Visit the Sick. 12mo., pp. iv+224. *Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge*. 2s.
BOWMAN (Anne). Young Yachtsman; or, the Wreck of the "Gipsey." With Illustrations. Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii+431. *Routledge*. 3s. 6d.
BROWN (William). Practical Treatise on the Succession Duty Act, 16 and 17 Vic., cap. 51, with the Decisions thereon in England, Scotland, and Ireland. 12mo. *Sweet*. 10s.
BROWNE (George, B.A.) Treatise on the Principles and Practice of the Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, with the Statutes, Rules, Fees, and Forms relating thereto. Roy. 12mo. *Sweet*. 14s.
BUNYAN (John). Pilgrim's Progress from this World to that which is to Come. With Illustrations. (Laurie's Entertaining Library.) 18mo., pp. viii+190. *Murby*. 1s.
BURNS (Robert). Songs. (Bell and Daldy's Elzevir Series.) Fcap. 8vo., pp. 319. *Bell and Daldy*. 4s. 6d.
CARPENTER (Mary). Our Convicts. In Two Volumes. Volume I. 8vo., pp. xii+293. *Longman*. 7s.
CHILD'S (The) Own Book of Scripture Pictures, containing the Chief Scenes and Events of Bible History, properly arranged and adapted for the Delight and Instruction of Children. 4to., boards, pp. 56. *Ward and Lock*. Plain, 3s. 6d.; coloured, 7s. 6d.
CHRISTMAS TREE (The). A Story for Young and Old. Translated from the German. 18mo., pp. 128. *Morgan*. 1s.
CHRONICLES OF CARLINGFORD. The Perpetual Curate. By the Author of "Salem Chapel," &c. Three Volumes. Post 8vo., pp. 934. *Blackwoods*. 31s. 6d.
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WOODLAND GLEANINGS. With Illustrations. New Edition, Revised and Corrected. Fcap. 8vo. *Dean*. 2s.

MISCELLANEA.

THE death of Grace, Lady Boswell, the widow of Sir Alexander Boswell of Auchinleck, which has just taken place, recalls one of the most exciting of the political reminiscences of a past generation. Sir Alexander was the eldest son of Dr. Johnson's biographer, and brother of James Boswell, the Shakespeare editor. Like his father—and unlike his grandfather, old Lord Auchinleck—he was a Tory of the Tories. He was charged by Mr. Stuart of Duncarn with writing a political song of an offensive nature; was called out; met his opponent, who was attended by the Earl of Rosslyn, his own "friend" being the Hon. John Douglas, the Marquis of Queensberry's brother, at Auchtertool, near Balmuto, March 26, 1822. The ball of Mr. Stuart struck him on the shoulder and entered

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the spine, and he died shortly afterwards at Balmuto House. Mr. Stuart was tried for murder, June 10, 1822; Jeffrey defended him, and he was acquitted. But the sensation caused by this avowed political duel was immense. Lady Boswell has lived in retirement for the last forty-two years. Sir Alexander Boswell had a private press at Auchinleck devoted to the printing of old manuscripts, which commenced operations in 1818 with "Ane Tractat of part of the Yngliss Cronicle," an abusive record of the "cursit governance" of English kings and "yar unhappie lynage," from Alloan's MS., preserved in the library at Auchinleck.

MR. CHARLES WINSTON, whose sudden death at his chambers in the Temple took place on the 3rd instant, in his fiftieth year, was the eldest son of the Rev. Benjamin Winston, who, for upwards of thirty years, till he resigned it in 1848, held the living of Farningham in Kent. His name was originally Sandford, but, in compliance with the will of his maternal grandfather, Charles Winston, formerly Attorney-General of Dominica, he assumed the name of Winston. His son Charles was born in 1814, and, at the age of twenty or twenty-one, was entered at the Inner Temple, where he practised as a special pleader till called to the bar in 1845. Of his professional career, which was most successfully devoted to the duties of arbitrator in many difficult and complicated cases, we have but to mention that no single decision of his has ever been sought to be set aside. In May last he married the youngest daughter of the late Philip Raoul Lemprière, Esq., of Rozel Manor, Jersey. Mr. Winston published, in 1847, in two volumes octavo, "Inquiry into Styles of Ancient Painted Glass," and, in 1849, a companion volume, "Introduction to the Study of Painted Glass," books of the highest authority on that subject, and acknowledged as such not only in England, but in France and Germany as well. With his refined taste and matured judgment in this branch of art, he greatly assisted in the execution of the painted windows in Glasgow Cathedral, and spared no time or trouble in giving his active co-operation both on artistic and scientific points to those in preparation for St. Paul's. At the time of his decease he was engaged in a correspondence with the director of the Munich establishment relative to the manufacture of the coloured glass intended to be used in these windows, his acquaintance with chemistry, which was anything but superficial, enabling him to offer the most valuable suggestions. He caused specimens of ancient glass to be analyzed, and the prosecution of the experiments which he instituted bids fair to secure, by scientific combinations, the rich effects which, with the mediæval glass-painters, were probably the result of accident or of positive imperfections in their material. His drawings from painted glass show not only unrivalled skill in the management of colour, but a keen and vivid perception of the spirit of the originals; indeed, they may be looked upon as perfect fac-similes. In private life his personal character and social qualities endeared him to a large circle of friends, who sincerely mourn his loss.

At the first meeting of the session of the Archaeological Institute on Friday last, the subject of the long-lost Othnia, the recent disinterment of portions of which we have already announced, will be brought under the notice of members. On the same occasion the very curious paintings of cinque-cento art preserved at Amberley Castle, near Arundel, and attributed to Bernardi, will be exhibited by kind permission of the Bishop of Chichester. Notices of these pictures have been given by Horace Walpole, and they are considered the best extant works of the artist. Among the latest traces of the primitive races in the British Islands are the numerous objects of flint found on the estates of Mr. Louis Huth, in Sussex, in course of engineering operations under the direction of Mr. Hewitt Davis. This subject also will be brought under the notice of the Institute on November 4th, by Mr. Davies.

MR. GROSSART'S "Lord Bacon not the Author of 'The Paradoxes':" being a Reprint of 'Memorials of Godliness and Christianity,' by Herbert Palmer, B.D.; with Explanatory Introduction, Memoir, and Notes," is on the eve of publication. "In an Introduction," says the editor, "I give account of the remarkable little discovery that it has fallen to me to make: to wit, the non-Baconian and actual authorship of 'The Paradoxes.' I describe the different editions. Thereafter will be found illustrations of the evil influence against Bacon of his supposed authorship of these 'Paradoxes' misunderstood, more especially in France and Germany; and also of how the real author-

ship sweeps away the abounding guess-work as to their meaning and design. In a Memoir of Herbert Palmer I have brought together, from all accessible sources, in print and manuscript, such facts and memorials as remain."

THE introductory lecture to the class of public reading and speaking at University College, London, will be delivered on Monday next, at four o'clock, by Mr. Charles Furtado. The admission to the introductory lecture is free for ladies as well as gentlemen.

A REPORT has been going the round of the press that Mr. Tennyson has cleared £10,000 by "Enoch Arden." Remarking upon this, the *North Briton* says:—"This is simple nonsense—the volume sells at six shillings, and we assume the net price to be four; well, 21,000 copies have been sold—these, at 4s. per copy, amount to £4200, and from this sum falls to be deducted the cost of paper and print, and also the publisher's trade commission. If Mr. Tennyson has received £2000 it will be a handsome sum as the produce of a six-shilling volume."

A NEW daily paper, the existence of which we presume is limited to the length of the duration of the exhibition from which it takes its name, is the smallest penny paper published. As a literary curiosity the *North London Working-Class Exhibition Miniature-Reporter* is well worth purchasing and preserving.

A LITTLE volume of broad fun, reminding the reader of the well-known "Comic Annual" and "Whims and Oddities," will shortly be published under the title of "Vere Vereker's Vengeance: a Sensation." The illustrations, we believe, will be quite as *à propos* to the text as those to be met with in many other recent works. The author is Mr. Thomas Hood.

ON Friday, last week, an American story was placed in the hands of a London publisher, and, being approved, was forthwith sent to the printer. On Wednesday a letter was received from America desiring that the republication in London should not take place, when it was discovered that London facilities had already enabled the printer to complete the work, which is ready for publication. Unless satisfactorily adjusted, the matter is likely to lead to expensive litigation.

LITERATURE is about to be represented in street-nomenclature. The vestry of the united parishes of St. Margaret's and St. John's, Westminster, have memorialized the Metropolitan Board of Works to alter the thoroughfare known as "Duck Lane" to "Cureton Street," out of respect to the late rector of St. Margaret's, the Rev. W. Cureton, D.D., F.R.S., Canon of Westminster, who was especially known as the first Syriac scholar in Europe.

AMONGST Christmas books already claiming attention are "Home Thoughts and Home Scenes," with thirty-five illustrations by A. B. Houghton, engraved by the brothers Dalziel, and letterpress descriptions by Miss Mulock, Miss Jean Ingelow, the Hon. Mrs. Norton, Miss A. B. Edwards, Miss Jennett Humphreys, Miss Dora Greenwell, and Mrs. Tom Taylor. The work forms one of Messrs. Routledge's elegantly-bound guinea volumes; and, as the illustrations are all drawn from child-life, it is sure to have a hearty welcome. Plates 27, "Snapdragon," and 29, "The Ghost," are worth the price of the book.—Mr. Edmund Routledge's "Every Boy's Annual," with 100 illustrations, is brimful of interesting matter for boys of all ages, which the editor of *Every Boy's Magazine* has selected from his pages for their delectation.—Then we have, from the same publishers, "What Men have said about Women: a Selection from the best Writers," by Mr. Henry Southgate, with illustrations by Watson, an elegant volume, sure to be an acceptable gift to any fair lady; and "Beauties of Poetry and Gems of Art," an extensively illustrated volume of choice reading for young lovers of poetry, published by Messrs. Cassell & Co.

EIGHTEEN thousand copies of the "Memoirs of Henrietta Caracciolo," of which Mr. Bentley publishes an English translation this day, are said to have been already disposed of in the original Italian.

MESSRS. RIVINGTONS have nearly ready a second and enlarged edition of "Hymns from the German," translated by Frances Elizabeth Cox; the first part of the second volume of Dean Alford's "New Testament for English Readers;" "Household Prayer," by the Rev. P. G. Medd; "The Public Schools Calendar," by a Graduate of Oxford; "The Church Choirmaster," by John Crowdy; a new shilling monthly magazine, to be called the *Englishman*, No. 1 of which is to appear on the 1st of January, 1865; and the first six books of Virgil's *Æneid*, with English notes by Clayton and Terram.

MESSRS. SAUNDERS, OTLEY, & Co. announce for publication, next week, "Macaria," a new novel by the author of "Beulah." The story is said to be one that depends more upon the depiction of character than upon intricacy of plot. The same publishers have also in preparation, as a Christmas gift-book, a new illustrated edition of "Tales of the Outspan," by Captain Drayson.

MESSRS. MAXWELL & Co.'s announcements include—"Broken to Harness," a story of English domestic life, by Edmund Yates; "Mercedes," a novel, by Sir Lascelles Wrexall; "The Jolly-boat," by Lieutenant Warneford, R.N.; "Maggie Bell," a Lancashire story, by Warwick Holme; "Left to the World," by Charles Beach; "Lady Cumberford's Protégée," a novel; "The Hawk-shawes," by M. A. Bird, two volumes; and "A Biography of Shakespeare's Inner Life as shown in his Writings," by John A. Heraud.

MESSRS. WILLIAMS AND NORRIS will publish in a few days "The Teutonic Name-system applied to Family Names of France, England, and Germany," by Robert Ferguson, author of "The River-names of Europe," "Swiss Men and Swiss Mountains," &c.

MR. TRESIDDER'S list of forthcoming publications includes:—"A Cyclopædia of Illustrations of Moral and Religious Truths," by the Rev. John Bate; "A Review of the 'Vie de Jésus' of M. Renan," by Mr. J. B. Paton; "Meditations on Select Passages of Scripture," by Mr. Joseph Thorpe Milner; "The History of Methodism in Almondbury," by the Rev. R. Roberts; "Woman's Rights and Woman's Wrongs," "Christmas Minstrelsy; or, One Hundred and Twenty Carols, Anthems, and Chants, Original, adapted to Family, Social, and Congregational Use;" and "The Numerical Decrease in the Wesleyan Methodist Societies."

THE Norwegian papers record the death of Professor J. R. Keyser of the University of Christiania, who was well known by his learned researches into the origin of the Scandinavians, and the ways by which they travelled in their migrations to the north. In conjunction with Professor Munck, who died some years ago at Rome, he published a Collection of the Ancient Laws of Norway in 1837. "The History of the Norwegian Church during its Catholicism," the book by which he is best known, appeared in 1856-1858.

THE celebrated Hungarian poet Emerich Madach, author of a philosophical poem, the "Tragedy of Man," died at Ballaszo-Gyermath on the 4th instant.

AMONGST French books on the eve of publication are—Michelet's "Bible de l'Humanité;" the forty-third volume of the new edition of the "Biographie Universelle;" a reprint, in twenty-four half-volumes, in quarto, of the "Armorial Général de France," by MM. Hozier, which was originally published in 1738 to 1768, and, as a companion to it, "Indicateur du Grand Armorial Général de France, recueil officiel dressé en vertu de l'édit de 1696 (34 volumes de texte et 35 volumes d'armoiries)," par Charles d'Hozier, Juge d'Armes, of which the first volume has appeared; the fourteenth and last part of the important "Dictionnaire Général de la Politique," par M. Maurice Block; the second half of the fourth volume of the new edition of the "Dictionnaire de la Noblesse," par Lachenaye-Desbois et Badier; and a French "Bradshaw," prepared by M. Evariste Thevenin, "Almanach Général des Chemins de Fer, contenant la nomenclature et la distance kilométrique de toutes les stations des chemins de fer Français, par ordre alphabétique pour chaque réseau, et sept cartes."

THE last number of Didot Frères, Fils, & Co's new edition of "Stephani Thesaurus Græcæ Linguae," completing the eight volumes, will be published in November.

THE following French books have recently appeared:—"Recueil des Traités de la France, publié sous les auspices de S. Exc. M. Drouyn de Lhuys, ministre des affaires étrangères, par M. de Clercq; Tome 1: 1713-1802," an octavo volume of some 650 pages; a second edition of M. Mezière's the "Prédécesseurs et Contemporains de Shakespeare;" "Nouvelles Etudes sur l'Arme à Feu rayée de l'Infanterie, par Guillaume de Plénnis, traduit de l'Allemand par J. E. Tardieu, ancien Capitaine d'Artillerie;" "Théorie et Construction générale des Canons rayés, par André Rutzky, d'après l'Allemand, par Maurice Séebold, ingénieur civil;" and "Le Bosphore et Constantinople, avec Perspectives des Pays Limitrophes, par P. de Tchihatchef, Correspondant de l'Institut"—a volume of some 600 pages, with maps and plates.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[The Editor does not hold himself responsible for opinions entertained by Correspondents. Anonymous communications cannot be inserted.]

ENGLISH NOTIONS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Oct. 23, 1864.

SIR,—“A Londoner,” in your last issue, charges me with having “wholly misconceived and misinterpreted” what he wrote in a previous letter. I do not perceive that I have done any such thing.

My remarks, to which he refers, were based, entirely and professedly, on the following words of his: “In spite of a thousand disclaimers—in spite of the sincere horror of hundreds of honest Americans—is it to be either doubted or denied that the *New York Herald* continues to be the most popular journal in America? What more need be said?”

I repeat, that, in my strictures on these questions, I purposely confined myself to the one point into which their scope may be resolved. And this point is, as a “A Londoner” unequivocally implies, that the American people are liable to reproach in consequence of the popularity of the *New York Herald*. Having no intention of replying to “A Londoner’s” letter at large, not in the least did I—as he supposes I did—contemplate what he had written of “political rowdiness.” My chief complaint,” he says, “is, that my opponent has utterly mistaken the purport of my observations.” My answer to this is, that, with the exception of the passage which I have quoted above, his “observations” were to me as if they were not. Nor shall I deal with them now. And equally little had I before my mind’s eye anything that had been said by “other writers in your columns.”

I deplore, as much as “A Londoner” does, the ruffianism and bad taste of the *New York Herald*. The ground of its popularity in America I know to be substantially unknown in England; and I explained it as consisting in the superiority of its intelligence department. “A Londoner’s” argument, as against me, could avail only if he were able to name an American journal, equally valuable, in the article of news, with the *New York Herald*, and yet postponed to it in popular favour. In passing, he spoke, before, of that paper as being “the most popular journal in America;” and now it is only “the leading journal of New York.”

I am not at all surprised that “A Londoner” thinks he “might reasonably dispute the truth” of my assertion that Americans rate leading articles less highly than Europeans do. (He makes me say “Englishmen,” though I studiously avoided the word.) That such of my countrymen as have had an opportunity of forming an opinion would, almost to a man, here support me, and that my statement has been corroborated, within the last week, by three foreigners who have long resided in America, is little to the point, of course. An American, I ought to have foreseen, should not compete, in acquaintance with his own kindred, with an Englishman.

An Englishman spends a few months, or, it may be, a few years, in America, and then flatters himself that he quite understands all that he has seen and heard there. A less degree of self-confidence should, perhaps, suggest to him that he was then only just beginning to get quit of his pre-conceptions. Sooth to say, as a rule, he might almost as well have stayed at home. “A Londoner’s” compatriots, while far from quick to receive new impressions, are notoriously over-tenacious of old ones. I have never met with ten Englishmen that would deign to accept instruction about America, though I have met with very many that were perfectly ready to impart it. And naturally enough. With the typical Englishman, his facts are facts; and there is nothing of importance to add to them; and there’s an end. And so it must continue to be, wherever a knowledge of America is assumed to be part and parcel of an Englishman’s intuitional furniture. In the view of an American, his premises are, in too many instances, mere fictions; and his logic is the logic of antipathy.

For myself, though I have lived on English ground for eighteen years off and on, it is only within the last five or six that I have begun to feel any tolerable security in my judgments of the people and institutions around me. The circumstance that Englishmen and Americans use a language in appearance mutually intelligible is, I verily believe, a hindrance, rather than a help, to their comprehending each other. But this is a thesis for an essay.

Another thing which I have often noticed is, the freedom with which unauthenticated imputations on Americans are hazarded, and by wholesale, precisely as if the victims of them were out of the pale of humanity and had no right to human emotions. That which would be deemed atrocious, if said of Englishmen, is altogether *en règle*, if only Americans are the object of it; and any demur to such treatment would be met with unaffected astonishment. From force of habit, the slanderer finds its way to paper almost unconsciously to the slanderer; and no one but another Englishman can undo the mischief. Thus, “A Londoner” talks of “a thousand disclaimers;” thereby implying a thousand departures or departers from the truth: for what is said to be disclaimed he considers to be unquestionable. A bold creation, this, by a single stroke of the pen! And, again, he has written, with injurious import in the context, of “the sincere horror of hundreds of honest Americans;” which hundreds are only so many honest chimeras. There is comfort, however, in discovering that he believes in the existence of “hundreds of honest Americans,” considering that he had so little trouble in picking up the mendacious authors of his “thousand disclaimers.”

“It is notorious,” “A Londoner” tells us, “that Mr. Raymond, Mr. Greeley, and Mr. Bennett are far more important persons in New York than any newspaper-editors in London.” It is quite useless, I know, even to express my utter surprise at such an averment. My own belief is, that the editor of the *Times*, personally and through his staff, is more influential than two-thirds of all the newspaper-editors in America put together.

As to “A Londoner’s” “experience in New York,” it will have been seen why I cannot esteem his experience, or that of any other visitant of the United States, as of much importance. I would protest, too, most emphatically, against New York and America being regarded as convertible terms. New York is no American London. Indeed, Great Britain and the United States present, to a person who knows them both, very few real points of analogy.—Yours, &c.,

AN AMERICAN LONDONER.

P.S.—The last sentence of my first letter was printed in a sadly mangled shape. Remarking on extravagance of language, I said that “the big strong word, like the employment of solemn affirmations, is a beacon either of a bad conscience or of a defective intellect.” It is a psychological fact, and one little attended to practically, that, as regards a man who is not of defective intellect, just in proportion as his convictions are infirm, he experiences an instinctive inclination to bolster up the expression of them. If he exaggerates, he feels that he is exaggerating; and yet he would not betray the feeling:—only he can’t help doing so. As good wine needs no bush, so truth requires no garnish of magnification.

CROQUET.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Longford, Oct. 20, 1864.

SIR,—In THE READER of Saturday, October 15th, in your article on “The Literature of Croquet,” I was struck by the following passages relative to the date of the introduction of the game into this country:—“Its very name is so new that the latest dictionaries know it not.” “Considering the strong influence of Croquet upon the matrimonial market . . . it is remarkable that the game seems originally to have been confined to children. The first notices of it which we have been able to trace in the literature of our country occur in ‘The Boys’ Number of the *Family Herald*’ and in the *Field* newspaper towards the close of 1858.” Further on, speaking of the ancient game of “Mall,” we find—“But it eventually declined, and was preserved only by the Ghebers, or Persian Fire-worshippers, who transmitted it to their descendants, the modern Parsees of Bombay, by one of whom, Mr. Bumblejee Jumblejee Gingerboy, it was brought to this country at the time of the Great Exhibition of 1862, under the name of Croquet.”

From these statements one is led to believe that “Croquet” has been quite recently imported into this country. Now it is a positive fact that, in the years 1834–35, the game was played in the neighbourhood of Kingstown, near Dublin, under the name of Croquet, and with implements similar to those now used. Whence or how it found its way into Ireland thirty years ago is more than I can tell. Since that time, in the year 1854, I joined in the game myself at Cootehill, Co. Cavan.

FREDERICK J. FOOT,
Geological Survey.

“LE Christ et César ou le Christ-Roi,” the work of a learned French Abbé, has been seized at all the booksellers and at the house of the author, on the charge of its treasonable attacks on the clergy and public functionaries.

THE new commission for the publication of the Correspondence of Napoleon I. consists of Prince Napoleon, Count Walewski, M. Amédé Thierry, the Count Laborde, M. Saint-Beuve, and Colonel Favé. The order bears the date of February 3, 1864.

THE Académie des Beaux-Arts de l’Institut Impérial de France has awarded a golden medal of the value of 2000 francs to the Vicomte Henri Delaborde for his “*Études sur les Beaux-Arts en France et en Italie*,” and a medal of the value of 1000 francs to M. Gruyer for his work entitled “*Raphaël et l’Antiquité*,” and his previous publication on Raphaël’s “*Loges du Vatican*.”

AMONGST American announcements of forthcoming books are a “*Campaign Life of General McClellan*,” “*The Hero Boy; or, the Life and Public Services of Lieutenant-General U. S. Grant*,” by the Rev. P. C. Headley; “*Reminiscences of New York City during the last Fifty Years*,” by the Rev. Dr. Mathews, formerly Chancellor of the University; Miss Mary L. Booth’s translation of “*The History of France by M. Martin*,” in seventeen volumes, two volumes of which, containing “*The Reign of Louis XIV.*,” are on the eve of publication; and “*Philosophy as Absolute Science, founded on the Universal Laws of Being*,” by Ephraim L. Frothingham.

MESSRS. TICKNOR AND FIELD’S (American) announcements include—“*Familiar Letters from Europe*,” by C. C. Felton, late President of Harvard University; “*House and Home Papers*,” by Harriet Beecher Stowe; a second series of “*My Days and Nights on the Battlefield*,” by Carleton; and “*The Boy Slaves*,” by Captain Mayne Reid.

IN the *Literarisches Centralblatt* (No. 43) is a favourable review of Draper’s “*History of the Intellectual Development of Europe*,” and of the “*Londoner Conferenzen zur Beilegung des Deutsch-Dänischen Streites*,” the *Grenzboten* (No. 42) continues the series of papers on “*Early Christianity and its Literature*,” the *Beilage zur Allgemeinen Zeitung* (Nos. 276–282) contains “*Florenz*,” “*Baltimore und Atalanta*,” and “*Die Englische Kunst*,” the *Illustrirte Zeitung* (No. 1111) has an interesting article on “*Gun-cotton*,” the *Magazin für die Literatur des Auslandes*, an elaborate paper on the German drama, and translations of Shakespeare, and a biographical sketch of Thackeray; the *Illustrirtes Familien-journal*, “*Fliegender Buchhandel in London*,” the *Berliner Revue* (No. 1, xxxix.), “*Oesterreich und England, Berlin*,” the *Neuer Anzeiger für Bibliographie*, a severe review of the recent Russian catalogue of the productions of the Elzevirs; the *Ausland* (No. 42), “*Die Amazonen in Dahomey*,” “*Die Bewohner der Pfahlbauten*,” “*Yerba Maté, the Tea of Paraguay*,” “*Die Insel Bourbon*,” and “*Reise der Pilger-Missionäre, Eipperle und Grand-Lienard von Cairo nach Chartum*,” the *Europa* (No. 43) reviews Gorst’s “*Maori King*,” and Trollope’s “*Girlhood of Catherine de Medici*,” and *Lehmann’s Magazin* (No. 41), Taylor’s “*Words and Places*.”

MR. T. A. TROLLOPE’S “*Girlhood of Catherine de Medici*” has appeared in a German version as “*Die jugendjahre von Catherine von Medici*.”

MR. TAUCHNITZ reprints Mrs. Henry Wood’s “*Lord Oakburn’s Daughters*” as volumes 743 and 744 of his “*Collection of British Authors*.”

AMONGST other recent German publications we have to notice “*Handel’s Correspondenz-Lexicon* [Book of Reference for Mercantile Correspondence], von Fried. Noback und Thos. John Graham;” “*Beaumarchais: Historischer Roman von A. C. Brachvogel*,” the well-known novelist; “*Theuer Erkauft, Erzählung in Briefen*,” by Agnes, Countess Schwerin; “*Die Ausgrabungen auf der Homerischen Pergamos*, von J. G. von Hahn an Georg Finlay” (Mr. Hahn is the Austrian Consul at Athens;) and Bielenstein’s “*Lettische Sprache nach ihren Lauten und Formen erklärend und vergleichend dargestellt*.”

THE second part of the second volume of Oppenheim’s German translation of May’s “*Constitutional History*” has been published at Leipzig. There have also appeared the third volume of Reissmann’s “*Allgemeine Geschichte der Musik*,” and the first volume of Klein’s long-expected “*Geschichte des Drama’s*,” containing, by way of introduction, the history of Greek tragedy. The new edition of Mühlbach’s popular “*Kaiser Joseph II. und sein Hof*,” in three volumes, is now ready; and, for the colportage, an issue has been prepared, to be completed in thirty-six parts, of which the first two have appeared.

29 OCTOBER, 1864.

SCHNORR'S BIBLE PRINTS.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Oct. 25, 1864.

SIR,—We notice in one of your last numbers a review of a work entitled "Schnorr's Bible Prints." It is necessary to warn intending purchasers that this publication is not to be confounded with "Schnorr's Bible Pictures" published by us. The former is merely 24 out of nearly 200 pictures, taken at hap-hazard, and printed from casts which were considerably mutilated—so much so, indeed, that Professor Schnorr, at the time of their first publication, protested against it, and declined to allow any more to be issued. It was in consequence of this interference with the artist's rights that we issued the series printed from the original blocks of 180 prints.

The new issue from these mutilated casts has not even the recommendation at the reduced price of being cheaper than the originals.—Yours, &c. WILLIAMS AND NORGATE.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF SLANG AND CANT WORDS.

To the Editor of THE READER.

SIR,—Having suggested last week, in my review of Mr. Hotten's "Slang Dictionary" in your columns, that your readers should collect words and illustrations of slang and cant words for that gentleman, I beg to ask you now whether you are willing to find room for any such illustrations that may be sent you, so that you may let your other readers see them before Mr. Hotten uses them. I cannot help thinking that any columns you may devote to this purpose will not be the least entertaining part of your journal, and will interest a large number of readers.

The word that has suggested this request is *Jilt*, which I find in the 1681 edition of Blount's *Glossographia* (first ed., 1656) thus entered:—"JILT is a new canting word, signifying to deceive and defeat one's expectation, more especially in the point of amours."—Yours, &c., REVIEWER.

[We shall be glad to devote a corner, as suggested by "Reviewer," to words and illustrations of slang and cant words.—ED.]

SCIENCE.

VITALITY.

THE origin, growth, and energies of living things are subjects which have always engaged the attention of thinking men. In endeavouring to account for them a special agent was assumed which was, to a great extent, free from the limitations observed among the powers of inorganic nature. This agent was called the *vital force*; and, under its influence plants and animals were supposed to collect their materials and to assume determinate forms. Within the last twenty years, however, our ideas of vital processes have undergone profound modifications; and the interest, and even disquietude, which the change has excited in some minds are amply evidenced by the discussions and protests which are now common regarding the phenomena of vitality. In tracing out these phenomena through all their modifications the most advanced philosophers of the present day declare that they ultimately arrive at a single source of power, from which all vital energy is derived; and the disquieting circumstance is that this source is not the direct fiat of a supernatural agent, but a reservoir of what, if we do not accept the creed of Zoroaster, must be regarded as *inorganic force*. In short, it is considered as proved that all the energy which we derive from plants and animals is drawn from the sun.

Besides the mechanical actions which he produces in the surrounding planetary system, the sun acts as a *radiant* body from which issues, in the form of minute waves, a power whose functions have but recently been fully apprehended. These waves, impinging upon the optic nerve, produce light, and impinging upon other nerves produce heat, the impressions of heat and light depending on our organization, different parts of which are affected differently by the self-same thing. But the function of the sun is not only to illuminate and warm us; for, without his vibrations, vegetable life—and consequently

animal life, which depends ultimately on that of vegetables—could have no existence. A few years ago, when the sun was affirmed to be the source of life, nine out of ten of those who are alarmed by the form which this assertion has latterly assumed would have assented, in a general way, to its correctness. Their assent, however, was more poetical than scientific, and they were by no means prepared to see a rigid mechanical significance attached to their words. This, however, is the peculiarity of modern conclusions: that there is no *creative* energy whatever in the vegetable or animal organism, but that all the power which we develop by the combustion of wood or coal, as well as that which we obtain from the muscles of men and animals, has been produced at the sun's expense. The sun is so much colder that we may have our fires; he is also so much colder that we may have our horse-racing and Alpine climbing. It is, for example, certain that the sun has been chilled to an extent capable of being accurately expressed in numbers, in order to furnish the power which lifted this year a certain number of tourists from the vale of Chamouni to the summit of Mont Blanc.

But, to most minds, the energy of light and heat presents itself as a thing totally distinct from ordinary mechanical energy. Perhaps the best way to prove the power of light and heat to be of the same quality as ordinary mechanical power is to show how the former may be derived from the latter. A savage by the friction of wood can raise it to the temperature of ignition; a skilful blacksmith by properly striking a piece of iron can cause it to glow, and thus, by the rude agency of his hammer, he generates light and heat. This action, if carried far enough, would produce the light and heat of the sun. In fact the sun's light and heat have actually been referred to the fall of meteoric matter upon his surface. Now, whether the sun is thus supported or not, it is perfectly certain that he *might* be thus supported. And, whether the whilom molten condition of our planet was, as supposed by Mayer, due to the collision of cosmic masses or not, it is perfectly certain that the molten condition *might* be thus brought about. If, then, solar light and heat can be produced by the impact of dead matter, and if from the light and heat thus produced we can derive the energies which we have been accustomed to call *vital*, it indubitably follows that vital energy may have a purely mechanical origin.

In what sense, then, is the sun to be regarded as the origin of the energy derivable from plants and animals? Let us try to give an intelligible answer to this question. Water may be raised from the sea-level to a high elevation, and then permitted to descend. In descending it may be made to assume various forms—to fall in cascades, to spurt in fountains, to boil in eddies, or to flow tranquilly along a uniform bed. It may, moreover, be caused to set complex machinery in motion, to turn millstones, throw shuttles, work saws and hammers, and drive piles. But every form of power here indicated would be derived from the original power expended in raising the water to the height from which it fell. There is no energy *generated* by the machinery; the work performed by the water in descending is merely the parcelling out and distribution of the work expended in raising it. In precisely this sense is all the energy of plants and animals the parcelling out and distribution of a power originally exerted by the sun. In the case of the water, the source of the power consists in the forcible separation of a quantity of the liquid from the lowest level of the earth's surface and its elevation to a higher position, the power thus expended being returned by the water in its descent. In the case of vital phenomena, the source of power consists in the forcible separation of the atoms of chemical compounds by the sun—of the carbon and hydrogen, for example, of the carbonic acid and water diffused throughout the atmosphere, from the oxygen with which they are combined. This separation is effected in the leaves of plants by solar

energy. The constituents of the carbonic acid and water are there torn asunder in spite of their mutual attraction, the carbon and hydrogen are stored up in the wood, and the oxygen is set free in the air. When the wood is burned the oxygen recombines with the carbon, and the heat then given out is of the precise amount drawn from the sun to effect the previous "reduction" of the carbonic acid. The reunion of the carbon with the oxygen is similar to the reunion of our falling water with the earth from which it had been separated. We name the one action "gravity" and the other "chemical affinity;" but these different names must not mislead us regarding the qualitative identity of the two forces. They are both *attraction*, and, to the intellect, the falling of carbon atoms against oxygen atoms is not more difficult of conception than the falling of water to the earth.

The building up of the vegetable then is effected by the sun through the reduction of chemical compounds. *All the phenomena of animal life are more or less complicated reversals of these processes of reduction.* We eat the vegetable, and we breathe the oxygen of the air, and in our bodies the oxygen which had been *lifted* from the carbon and hydrogen by the action of the sun again falls towards them, producing animal heat and developing animal forms. Through the most complicated phenomena of vitality this law runs:—the vegetable is produced by the lifting, the animal by the falling of a weight. But the question is not exhausted here. The water which we used in our first illustration produces all the motion displayed in its descent, but the *form* of the motion depends on the character of the machinery interposed in the path of the water. And thus the primary action of the sun's rays is qualified by the atoms and molecules among which their energy is distributed. Molecular forces determine the *form* which the solar energy will assume. In the one case this energy is so conditioned by its atomic machinery as to result in the formation of a cabbage; in another case it is so conditioned as to result in the formation of an oak. So also as regards the reunion of the carbon and the oxygen—the *form* of their reunion is determined by the molecular machinery through which the combining energy acts. In one case the action may result in the formation of a man, while in another it may result in the formation of a grasshopper.

But whence comes the power on the part of the molecules to compel the solar energy to take determinate forms? The matter of the animal body is that of inorganic nature. There is no substance in the animal tissues which is not primarily derived from the rocks, the water, and the air. Are the forces of organic matter, then, different in kind from those of inorganic matter? All the philosophy of the present day negatives the question. It is the compounding in the organic world of forces that belong equally to the inorganic that constitutes the mystery and the miracle of vitality. Every portion of every animal body may be reduced to purely inorganic matter. A perfect reversal of this process of reduction would carry us from the inorganic to the organic; and such a reversal is at least conceivable. The tendency, indeed, of modern science is to break down the wall of partition between organic and inorganic, and to reduce both to the operation of forces which are the same in kind, but whose combinations differ in complexity.

The mode in which these combinations have been brought about is a perfectly legitimate subject of scientific speculation; and in this we will here so far indulge as to ask a single speculative question. It is generally supposed that our earth once belonged to the sun, from which it was detached in a molten condition. Hence arises the question "Did that incandescent world contain latent within itself the elements of life?" Or, supposing a planet carved from our present sun, and set spinning round him at the distance of our earth, would one of the consequences of

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its refrigeration be the development of organic forms? *Structural* forces certainly lie latent in the molten mass, whether or not those forces reach to the extent of forming a plant or an animal. All the marvels of crystalline force, all those wonderful branching frost-ferns which cover our window-panes on a winter morning—the exquisite molecular architecture which is now known to belong to the ice of our frozen lakes—all this “constructiveness” lies latent in an amorphous drop of water, and comes into play when the water is sufficiently cooled. And who will set limits to the possible play of molecular forces in the cooling of a planet?

In discussing these questions it is impossible to avoid taking side-glances at the phenomena of intellect and will. Are *they*, by natural evolution, capable of being developed from incandescent matter? Whether they are or not, we do not seem to possess the rudiments of an organ which could enable us to comprehend the change; we are utterly incompetent to take the step from the phenomena of physics to those of consciousness. And, even granting the validity of the above explanation, the questions still remain, “Who or what made the sun and gave his rays such power? Who or what bestowed upon the ultimate particles of matter the forces whose interaction, combined with the energy of the solar rays, produces plants and animals?” Science does not know: the mystery, though pushed back, remains as deep as ever. J. T.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT KEW AND GREENWICH.

OUR readers may remember that, when we laid before them the Kew Report of the British Association, we referred to a very valuable scientific correspondence which accompanied it. We now print the correspondence, but do not desire to constitute ourselves judges of the points in dispute. Our readers must determine for themselves whether it is the Astronomer-Royal who has the misfortune to differ from the Kew Committee, or the Kew Committee who are unfortunate in differing from the Astronomer-Royal. The perfect courtesy preserved throughout argues well for a speedy settlement of their differences of opinion on the very important points raised; at the same time, in the interests of science, it is certainly to be regretted that this correspondence should have taken place; and we think that the whole could have been avoided had the Greenwich authorities been sufficiently careful in framing their report.

The paragraph in the Astronomer-Royal's Report to the Visitors of the Royal Observatory, to which the attention of the Kew Committee had been drawn, runs as follows:—

“I consider it certain that the small probable errors which have been attributed to ordinary needles are a pure delusion. I know no instrumental determination in which, without any breach of faith, the wish for uniformity of results will be so certainly followed by uniformity of results as in the determination of dip.”

Mr. Gassiot was requested by the Committee to inquire whether it was intended to refer to dip-observations made at Kew Observatory.

The Astronomer-Royal in his reply remarks:—

“... It gives me great pleasure to enter fully upon any matter to which you may invite my attention, and particularly so when the object is such as is characterized in the last paragraph of your letter.

“The inquiries in your letter are in fact two:—

“First. Whether the paragraph of my report refers to other observations than those made at Greenwich?

“To this I reply that it necessarily refers to other observations. I have never succeeded in producing the agreement of results which is implied by the smallness of the probable errors, except by unfair selection among the discordant primary elements of observation on which the result is founded. I have stated this repeatedly in my reports to the Board of Visitors (the whole series of which, I believe, are lodged in the Kew Observatory), and I have in one, at least, particularly remarked that the discordance still exists with the very fine instrument now in use at the Royal Observatory.

“Second. Whether the paragraph of my report is intended in any measure to apply to dip-observations made at the Kew Observatory, and published in the publications of the Royal Society?

“To this I reply that it is intended so to apply, inasmuch as the degree of accuracy, to which I do not give my assent as real or well founded, is claimed for the dip-observations made at the Kew Observatory. In support of my statement of that claim, I will refer to a pamphlet by General Sabine, which I am unwilling further to describe, but which, as I am aware, has been forced on your attention and on that of the other members of the Committee of Recommendations of the British Association. In it will be found the following sentences:—‘The probable error of a *single observation of the dip* with reliable instruments of easy procurement is known to be $\pm 1'5$. It has been shown to be so by a series of 282 observations made at Kew, employing 12 circles and 24 needles, all of the pattern which has been in use at Kew for several years past. The observations were made by seven different observers: the results are published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, March 1861, from entries in the Kew Observatory books, not a single observation having been omitted. The probable error $\pm 1'5$ may be regarded as including *constant errors*, considering the number of different circles and needles which were employed, as well as the peculiarities of different observers, of whom there were seven.’ (The italics are General Sabine's.) These are the probable errors which I cannot accept as accurate.

“It may not be superfluous to add that I have conversed with several foreign observers (one of whom has very lately quitted me), and that all have found discordances comparable to those which I have myself observed. I have therefore no novelty to claim, except the suggestion (made by me some years ago) of instability in the position of the magnetic axis, and the construction (within little more than a year) of an instrument whose results appear to support that suggestion.

“I should be much gratified if the powers of the Kew Observatory could be devoted to the examination of this and analogous instrumental difficulties. These experimental inquiries are not well suited to the system of the establishment over which I preside. And, speaking as a member of the British Association, I think that the Kew Observatory would be better employed in that way than in the course which now absorbs so much of its strength. It was originally intended, and, in my opinion, wisely intended, for the verification and improvement of instruments, and not for continuous observations. If the examination which I propose should be taken up, I shall be happy to co-operate, by repetition of observations (as my opportunities might serve) and by communication of my results. G. B. AIRY.”

Mr. Gassiot, in acknowledging this letter, remarked:—

“I have forwarded your letter to Mr. Stewart, the Director of the Observatory, under whose immediate directions the observations were made, and I hope you will find that the explanation he will offer will satisfy you as to the entire truthfulness of the results he obtained, and to the reliability that should be placed thereon.

“I have always understood that to the continued magnetical observations which have been made at Kew Observatory has been mainly due the establishment of so many magnetical observatories abroad; it would, however, ill become me to offer to you any opinion as to their value, although I cannot but regret that they do not appear to have met your approval.”

Mr. Stewart's letter is as follows:—

“Kew Observatory, Richmond,

“July 4th, 1864.

“MY DEAR SIR,—I have perused Mr. Airy's letter to you, in which he states that the passage in his Report to the Board of Visitors, about which you wrote to him as chairman of the Kew Committee, was intended to refer to the dip-observations made at the Kew Observatory, and published in the publications of the Royal Society. I have likewise perused your reply; and now, in accordance with your request, I shall describe the mode of dip-observation at Kew, in order that you may see that Mr. Airy's remark is inapplicable to our determinations.

“But, before doing so, it may be well to state that the list of dip-observations recorded in the publication to which Mr. Airy refers is a faithful and complete catalogue of those which have been made at this Observatory. My connexion with the publication referred to is therefore this—I look upon it simply as an authorized and compendious catalogue of the dip-observations which have been made at Kew; and, regarding the method in which these have been discussed in the publications of the Royal Society as not falling within

the scope of my reply, I shall confine myself to the question of mental bias, and endeavour to show you that our dip-observations are quite free from any such source of error.

“In the first place, the circles used at Kew are all of the same pattern; this being one which combines the united experience of several eminent magneticians, and which they were several years in bringing to perfection. The circles and needles are all likewise made by the same optician (Mr. Henry Barrow), who has devoted very great pains to the construction of these instruments. I mention this latter circumstance because, in this observation, it is absolutely essential to have a needle constructed with the greatest care. Before commencing the observation, the fine hard axle of the needle is gently inserted into a piece of soft cork, in order that it may be thoroughly cleansed, and the agate knife-edges upon which it is to rest are likewise rubbed with cork. The needle itself has been previously magnetized by being rubbed ten times on each side from centre to pole by a pair of bar magnets. After the plane of the magnetic meridian has been determined in the usual way, the circle is placed in this plane, and the needle is observed in the four following positions:—

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| I. Face of needle to face of instrument | Face of instrument East. |
| II. Face of needle to face of instrument | “ “ West. |
| III. Face of needle reversed | “ “ West. |
| IV. “ | “ “ East. |

The poles of the needle are then reversed by ten strokes of the bar magnets on each side, and the same set of observations is repeated, the mean of the whole eight positions giving the dip.

“Both extremities of the needle are in each case successively viewed by microscopes attached to an arm which also carries the verniers by means of which the position is read. Before making an observation, the needle is gently raised from its support and lowered again by means of a lifter twice or thrice, after which its position is noted. I ought likewise to remark that, in magnetizing the needle, it is always placed in a wooden frame in such a manner that the magnets are obliged to pass symmetrically over it.

“In this process it appears to me that the only possible effect a mental bias can be imagined to have is to induce the observer to continue lifting the needle before reading, until it has come into what he considers the proper position; but even this is totally precluded by the method of observation, for the vernier is not read, and the observer does not know the position of his needle until it is at rest and the lifting process is at an end. Besides, if the observer did know the position of his needle, it would avail him little; for, while the mean of the eight positions is nearly the same for different instruments, yet the reading of any one position of the needle may be, and usually is, very different from the true and finally deduced dip.

“From all this it will be seen how little scope there is in the dip-observations for the operation of mental bias; but the observers who are supposed to have worked our instruments with an unconscious predetermination to produce certain results must have had still more formidable difficulties than even these to contend with. For, in order that mental bias should have operated in the case under discussion, the preconceived idea of uniformity with which the observer approached the instrument must have varied in such a measure from season to season and from year to year as to produce in the results obtained an annual variation, as well as a secular change, and these of such a nature as to conform with the results of other observatories. Mr. Airy must acknowledge that the uniformity to which he alludes, and the wish for which he supposes has created a mental bias, is that which remains after the annual and secular variations have been allowed for.

“Next, with regard to observers: we have frequently at Kew gentlemen connected with foreign observatories who come to receive a magnetical equipment. Their desire is to obtain the best possible instruments, but at the same time they view those presented to them with a very critical eye. One of these was Dr. Bergsma, who spent nearly a month in thoroughly examining the dip-circle and in suggesting refinements, but who went away convinced of its accuracy. Señor da Souza of Coimbra and Señor Capello of Lisbon have likewise made dip-observations at Kew, and with the same object—namely, to satisfy themselves by their own practical experience as to the best dip-circle with which to furnish their respective observatories.

“I shall only allude to one observer more, who, though he only made a single observation, has frequently expressed his wish to make a series, but has hitherto been prevented by his numerous engagements.

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"I speak of Mr. Glaisher, of Greenwich Observatory, who, on the 21st October last, obtained with Circle No. 40 a dip of $68^{\circ} 12' 2''$, while, with Circle No. 33, Mr. Chambers, on 19th and 20th October, obtained $68^{\circ} 12' 3''$.

"I have thus endeavoured to show that in the Kew dip-observation there is absolutely no opportunity for mental bias to act, and that, even if there were, many of our observers are not likely to have been the subjects of such an influence.

"In thus fulfilling your request, it is within my province to notice the second part of Mr. Airy's letter only in as far as this is connected with the subject of discussion. You will, therefore, perhaps permit me to refer you to the following paragraph of his letter, which I shall now quote:—'I have, therefore, no novelty to claim, except the suggestion (made by me some years ago) of instability in the position of the magnetic axis, and the construction (within little more than a year) of an instrument whose results appear to support that suggestion. I should be much gratified if the powers of the Kew Observatory could be devoted to the examination of this and analogous instrumental difficulties. These experimental inquiries are not well suited to the system of the establishment over which I preside. And, speaking as a member of the British Association, I think that the Kew Observatory would be better employed in that way than in the course which now absorbs so much of its strength. It was originally intended, and, in my opinion, wisely intended, for the verification and improvement of instruments, and not for continuous observations. If the examination which I propose should be taken up, I should be happy to co-operate, by repetition of observations (as my opportunities might serve), and by communication of my results.'

"These words, while they imply a request which has been courteously acknowledged by you in your reply, appear also to convey the idea that the Kew Observatory has left the burden of an experimental inquiry regarding dip-circles to the Greenwich establishment, which is not well suited to undertake such a task.

"I think that, whatever opinion be entertained regarding the functions of the Kew Observatory, it may be shown that it has fulfilled its duties as respects the dip-circle. I give you the following short sketch of our connexion as an observatory with the problem.

"The Kew Committee, being desirous to promote the construction and employment of improved magnetical instruments, procured a dip-circle which was too little known, but which they had reason to think was a good practical instrument. In making monthly determinations of the dip with this instrument at Kew, and in bringing these before the notice of men of science, the Committee have given the most convincing experimental proof which it was in their power to afford of the excellence of this instrument, and they have the satisfaction to think that their work has not been in vain, for the directors of many foreign observatories have supplied themselves with these circles, and as many as could do it have personally inspected them at Kew. Mr. Airy appears to have adopted a different course; as far as I am aware he has not yet honoured us with a visit to Kew in order to inspect our dip-circle and become personally acquainted with our method of observation. On the other hand, he has instituted experiments of his own, but has not succeeded in producing a good instrument, and the results which he has thus obtained have induced him to believe that the Kew determinations (although made with a different instrument, which is also handled in a somewhat different manner) are not correct.

"The Kew Committee have combated this conclusion, and are not shaken in their belief that they have obtained a nearly perfect dip-circle. They may be right or wrong in this opinion; but, while they retain it, they cannot surely be justly reproached with having left to the Greenwich Observatory the burden of an experimental inquiry which they can only regard as superfluous and self-imposed.—I remain, &c., "B. STEWART.

"To J. P. Gassiot, Esq., F.R.S.,
Chairman of the Kew Committee."

Before this letter had reached the Astronomer-Royal he wrote to Mr. Gassiot, indicating three subjects, of which two had been before him for several years, and the third had lately come before him with great force.

"1st. You are in some measure aware of the discordances which I have found in observations of the dipping needle, made with the smallest conceivable change in the circumstances of bearing, or even (as in some experiments which I have lately transmitted to Professor Stokes) without

lifting the needle at all. I am sure the Kew Observatory would do well in thoroughly investigating this matter by experiment.

"2nd. I have been troubled for many years with small displacements in the trace of the vertical-force photograph. I should be glad to have these investigated at the Kew Observatory; but it will be necessary for this purpose to modify the adjustments of the vertical-force instrument at Kew, which at present is incompetent to exhibit such displacements, and masks all that may ever have occurred.

"3rd. I should be very glad indeed to have a set of experiments on the temperature corrections of the force of a magnet, made by heating it in hot air instead of by hot water. My own experiments leave us in most distressing doubts.

"It will give me great pleasure to co-operate as far as possible with the Kew Committee in these matters—any record of our experiments and any apparatus that we can possibly spare will be at their command.

Mr. Stewart's report upon this letter is as follows:—

"Kew Observatory, July 30, 1864.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have perused Mr. Airy's letter, addressed to yourself as Chairman of the Kew Committee, in which he suggests that certain experiments should be made at the Kew Observatory; and I now reply to your request that I should report concerning this letter for the information of the Committee.

"From the correspondence which has passed between Mr. Airy and yourself, I have little difficulty in finding the proper basis for this report. The question resolves itself into the following:—Is it expedient in the interest of magnetical science that the Committee should undertake these experiments?

"If the suggestions of Mr. Airy refer to points which have not been settled, the Committee are surely indebted to him for bringing these before them; but, if, on the other hand, it be the opinion of the Committee that these points have already been discussed and finally disposed of, Mr. Airy cannot blame them if they decline making the experiments which he suggests.

"I will take these requests in succession.

"1. His first relates to dip-experiments and observations."

Mr. Stewart here proceeds to discuss Mr. Airy's request relative to dip-observations, after which he makes the following remarks on Mr. Airy's second request:—

"2. Mr. Airy states: 'I have been troubled for many years with small displacements in the trace of the vertical-force photograph. I should be glad to have these investigated at the Kew Observatory; but it will be necessary for this purpose to modify the adjustments of the vertical-force instrument at Kew, which at present is incompetent to exhibit such displacements, and masks all that may ever have occurred.'

"I shall take this request in connexion with the following paragraph from Mr. Airy's last Report to the Board of Visitors of Greenwich Observatory:—

"The vertical-force magnetometer still exhibits sometimes the dislocations in the photographic trace. There is no evidence, I believe, that these dislocations do not exist in the curves of every vertical-force instrument, for they are always accompanied with vibration; and no vertical-force instrument, I believe, except that of Greenwich, gives a trace strong enough to exhibit vibrations, and the dislocations, therefore, with any other instrument would appear merely as interruptions of the trace, and would not attract much attention.'*

"Before discussing Mr. Airy's request, I shall endeavour to show that our vertical-force instrument is free from objection. In the first place I am able to state, from having examined our vertical-force curves in conjunction with my assistant, that, when cause of disturbance takes place, the vibrations of our needle are impressed upon the photographic paper. Whenever a change takes place in the direction of the forces acting upon a freely suspended magnet, the impulse is followed, and the magnet, after an interval, which may be longer or shorter according to its time of vibration, assumes the new direction. If the changes of force succeed each other more rapidly than will admit of the magnet becoming stationary between their occurrence, it does not cease to vibrate until the intervals between the changes become long enough to permit it to do so.† This state of vibration is quite perceptible in the pho-

* As far as I am aware, Mr. Airy has not seen any original negative from our vertical-force magnetograph.
† It has already been recognised by Gauss as a law that no magnet can correctly record those changes of which the period is not considerably more than that of its own vibration."

tographic records at Kew; but, when the time of vibration is so small as in the Kew instrument where it is seven seconds only, the mean place corresponding to a desired instant is almost always obtainable from the trace. It may suffice that, in the six months from July 1 to December 31, 1863 (the records of which are now under reduction), and in which there should be 4416 equidistant hourly positions, there are only five wanting by reason of failures from all causes whatever. In one of these the disturbance was so excessive that the trace ran off the recording paper; in the other four the vibrations corresponding to the fluctuations in the directions of the disturbing force were too rapid to permit the trace to be sufficiently distinct for measurement. Should it be hereafter desirable to investigate more particularly the phenomena of the changes thus rapidly succeeding each other, a shorter, not a longer magnet than the one in use at Kew would be required, having a shorter time of vibration than seven seconds; but, in the meantime, and for the present wants of science, there is, I think, every reason to believe that Mr. Welsh exercised a sound judgment in determining the dimensions, shape, and weight of the Kew vertical-force magnet.

"The self-recording instruments at Kew are now in the seventh year of their performance, and the curves of each magnetograph, including those of the vertical force, have been carefully examined preparatory to reducing them, with the view of eliminating everything of the nature of displacements, whether due to instrumental defects or to the approach of magnetic matter. The curves of the vertical force under this very severe scrutiny have proved themselves as perfect as those of the other magnetometers—that is to say, they are practically faultless as far as one can judge by this means.

"General Sabine has kindly undertaken the reduction of the traces afforded by our magnetographs, and finds that the vertical-force magnet is capable of being applied in conjunction with the horizontal force to several important problems in which the theoretical bearings of the variations of the dip and total force are concerned, which will be shown as soon as the reductions, already far advanced, are completed; meanwhile instruments of the same pattern have been ordered by the directors of several foreign observatories, who have themselves personally examined the Kew instruments and the records of their performance, and have expressed their intention of working in concert with Kew.

"The displacements and dislocations which have occasioned Mr. Airy so much trouble for several years past in the Greenwich vertical-force instrument are obviously due to a cause or causes very different from that which has been noticed above. From his own description of them, we learn that the results in one sheet cannot be compared with those in another, and that in 1859 the vertical-force magnet exhibited for the daily magnetic curve a form approaching much more nearly to a straight line than it had usually given. The imperfection of such an instrument is sufficiently manifest, and it would not be difficult, perhaps, to assign its probable cause or causes; but, as it is no longer designed to be used by Mr. Airy himself, I submit that it would be inexpedient to employ the time of the Observatory in investigating how much the defect of an instrument which is given up by its employer may be due to one cause and how much to another. The Kew instrument has no such defect—in other words, it is, to use Mr. Airy's expression, 'incompetent to exhibit the displacements' (or dislocations) which take place in the Greenwich instrument.

"Again, in order to investigate these dislocations experimentally, it would be necessary that the Committee should dismount our present instrument and mount one similar to that which Mr. Airy has discarded, if not that very magnet itself; and Mr. Airy, in his request, intimates that some such change would be necessary. To dismount an instrument so usefully employed as that at Kew, and with the performance of which, for the purposes for which it was devised, we have reason to be fully satisfied, for the chance of constructing one of a different form, which might probably not give us equal satisfaction, would seem to be a species of treason to the branch of science which we are endeavouring to advance, as well as to ourselves and to those who have provided themselves with similar instruments to work in concert with us.

"3. Mr. Airy's third request is that we should make experiments in order to determine if there be any difference in the temperature correction as derived when the magnet employed is placed in hot and cold air, instead of in water, as is usually the case.

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"Let me first of all direct your attention to the principle on which the Kew Committee have proceeded for several years past in reference to the subject of temperature corrections. This principle has been to avoid, as far as possible, the occasion for such corrections; and the Committee will be glad to learn that Mr. Airy has latterly expressed his intention of adopting the same principle. At the Kew Observatory, the variation of temperature to which the magnetographs are exposed is only half a degree F. in twenty-four hours. In like manner, in the instrument for absolute determinations, by making the deflections and vibrations sufficiently near to one another in point of time, the correction for temperature is reduced to a minimum.

"But in former days a number of experiments were made on the temperature correction, some with the purpose of proving that magnetic changes are not caused by the varying temperature of the air, and others which exactly correspond to the point referred to by Mr. Airy; and these lead to the belief that temperature corrections determined by hot and cold water experiments are almost identical with those determined by hot and cold air.

"I find that at Toronto the temperature change of the vertical-force magnet found by comparing together days of different natural temperature was '00011 for 1° F., while the same determined by hot and cold water experiments was '00009. At Makerstoun, also, the temperature correction of the balance magnet, as determined by hot and cold days, was '000079, while that determined by hot and cold water experiments was '000073.

"These agreements are very near, and the first had induced General Sabine to remark that the hot and cold water method was sufficiently correct; while the same conclusion was also arrived at by Mr. Broun of Makerstoun, and, as far as I am aware, has been generally received.

"It is impossible for me, after such evidence that both methods give very nearly the same corrections, to doubt that Mr. Airy's very great difference must have been occasioned by error of experiment.

"As a principle, Mr. Airy will, I think, allow that in such an experiment it is better to have the hot and cold air filling a whole room than filling only a copper box; while, at the same time, it may be extremely difficult to indicate the precise source of error in his arrangement. I do not think that the Kew Committee are called upon to undertake this task, especially since (as has been shown) the comparison of corrections derived from heated air and heated water has already received due attention, the result of which has been to set that matter at rest in the minds of other magneticians; and also since the temperature corrections which will be hereafter required at Greenwich will not be of such magnitude as heretofore, and therefore are not likely to occasion Mr. Airy the same distressing doubts as those spoken of by him.—I remain, &c., B. STEWART.

"J. P. Gassiot, Esq.,
"Chairman of the Kew Committee."

PROFESSOR WOLF ON SOLAR SPOTS.

PROFESSOR WOLF of Zürich has communicated to the *Astronomische Nachrichten* the following résumé of the contents of No. 16 of his "Mittheilungen über die Sonnenflecke." His observations, collated with those of MM. Schwabe, Jenger, and Weber, upon the state of the sun's surface during the year 1863 give the results shown in the following table:—

1863.	Days of Observation.	Days without Spots.	Relative Number.
January	30	0	48.5
February	28	0	57.5
March	30	0	67.3
April	30	0	41.0
May	31	0	54.2
June	30	0	41.1
July	31	0	33.3
August	31	0	48.5
September	30	2	22.2
October	31	0	40.1
November	29	0	37.2
December	29	0	41.6
Total	360	2	
Average			44.4

Thus, from the present and previous communications, we have—

	For the Year					
	1858	1859	1860	1861	1862	1863
The average relative number	50.9	96.4	98.6	77.4	59.4	44.4

so that the regular decrease since the maximum of 1860-2 still continues, although the number of spotless days remains quite inconsiderable in 1863.

His No. 16 contains a short report upon a new calculation of the relative number for several decennial periods, and on the preparation of a corresponding series of their five-days averages.

The formulae established by him, taking the number 44.4 as their basis, give the mean variations of declination in 1863: for

Prague, 7° 73' Munich, 8° 72' Christiania, 6° 75';

whilst their direct determinations show some slight anomalies, such as likewise occurred in the years 1843 and 1852.

Professor Wolf also shows that the Greenwich variations of declination for the years 1841-1857, communicated to him by Professor Airy, may be very satisfactorily represented by the formula

$$v = 6' 33'' - 0' 123'' (t - 1849) + [0' 033'' - 0' 001'' (t - 1849)] r,$$

in which t indicates the year and r his corresponding relative number.

The author likewise publishes a communication from M. Fritz respecting his new catalogue of auroræ, and appends to it a comparison of the aurora days of the year 1863 (1836 in original) with the corresponding states of the solar spots, confirmatory of the correlation of the two phenomena. Finally, he gives several fine original series of observations on solar spots from Mr. Shott of Washington, M. Weber of Peckeloh, M. Franzénau of Vienna, and others.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION AT BATH.

REPORTS.

Committee on the Transmutation of Spectral Rays.—An interim report was presented, in which it was regretted that, through the scarcity of clear sunshine during the past summer at Oxford, and other circumstances, the experiments had not been completed. The methods and apparatus devised for the purpose appeared, from preliminary trials, competent to effect the proposed object, and preparations for more decisive experiments were in a very forward state.

SECTIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

Section A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

On the Present Aspect of the Discussion respecting the Telescopic Appearance of the Sun's Photosphere. By the Rev. W. R. Dawes.—A communication passing under review Mr. Nasmyth's various assertions and much of the recent work undertaken with an object of proving or disproving them. Mr. Dawes does not accept Mr. Nasmyth's statement as any new discovery, especially if the "willow-leaves" are identical with Mr. Stone's "rice-grains," and considers the discussion to be reduced to these alternatives:—First, That the objects described by Mr. Stone as like "rice-grains," are not identical with those Mr. Nasmyth has compared to "willow-leaves," and therefore can afford no corroboration of Mr. Nasmyth's assumed "discovery;" or, secondly, if they are the same, they are so easily seen as to have been well known to Sir W. Herschel seventy years ago, and to others more recently, and are therefore no new discovery at all.

Section B.—CHEMICAL SCIENCE.

An Account of Apparatus and Processes for the Chemical and Photometrical Testing of Illuminating Gas. By Professor W. B. Rogers.—For chemical testing, the eudiometer, consisting of a graduated tube with cylindrical enlargement, is permanently enclosed in a wider tube full of water, which maintains the temperature nearly uniform. The mouth of the graduated tube is furnished with a hollow ground stopper, for holding the several liquid absorbents used in the successive experiments. With this apparatus it is easy to determine the percentage of carbonic acid, of illuminating hydro-carbons, of oxygen, and of carbonic oxide; after which the hydrogen and light carburetted hydrogen are ascertained by explosion, by means of an instrument consisting mainly of two glass tubes, united below by a long loop of rubber-tube, being a modification of Frankland's apparatus. For determining the sulphur an improved arrangement is used, in which the stream of water supplying the Liebig's condenser is made to convey a stream of air, mingled with ammonia, into the condensing tube some inches above the flame of the burning gas. A larger and more constant unit of illumination than the candle commonly used is obtained by a lamp with a flat wick burning kerosene, giving a light equal to

about seven candles, and supported on a balance of peculiar construction, which gives the consumption during the experiment. Professor Rogers had found that even the small amount of carbonic acid which in some gas-works is allowed to remain in the gas produces a sensible reduction of the light.

On the Artificial Production of Anhydrite. By M. Alphonse Gages.—After referring to Dr. Sullivan's experiments, in which anhydrous sulphate of lime was obtained from its aqueous solution at a temperature of about 300° Centigrade, the author gave his own experiments on a mixture of gypsum and common salt, and on a mixture of gypsum and anhydrous sulphate of soda. The former of these mixtures fused very readily, the latter not quite so readily; and, on subsequently treating the products with water, nearly anhydrous sulphate of lime was left in the former case, and absolutely anhydrous sulphate in the latter. He made an application to geology of this production of anhydrite at comparatively low temperatures.

On a New Method of Extracting Gold from Auriferous Ores. By F. C. Calvert.—This method was based upon the fact that gold is more readily attacked by nascent chlorine than by free chlorine. The gold ore, reduced to a fine powder, was to be mixed with about one per cent. of peroxide of manganese, and then either salt and sulphuric acid or else hydrochloric acid was to be added to it. The author anticipated that one of the advantages of his method would consist in the recovery at the same time of copper and silver as well as gold.

On a Chemical Photometer for Meteorological Observation. By Professor Roscoe.—By means of this instrument the daily curve of chemical intensity of the sunlight at any spot is obtained, the whole apparatus being of a very simple description.

Dr. Daubeny remarked that, some thirty-four years ago, he made some experiments on the action of light upon plants, and he came to the conclusion that chemical rays had no action upon the decomposition of carbonic acid in plants, but it was done by the luminous rays. His opinion had since been confirmed by Professor Draper.

Professor Roscoe believed that it was the chemical rays which had the power of decomposing the carbonic acid. He imagined the fact that blue rays were absorbed entirely by the green colouring matter of plants proved what he advanced. They found that the green matter of plants would not allow those rays to pass, whereas the parts which were colourless did allow them to pass. This was a proof that it was the really highly refrangible rays which decomposed the carbonic acid.

Professor Miller believed it had been shown that it was the luminous rays which effected the decomposition of carbonic acid.

Dr. Sullivan said there was a phenomenon which preceded the green leaves—that of the conversion of the white compound which preceded the leaves. Would the spectrum, deprived of chemical rays, produce the green?

Dr. Daubeny said the direct conclusion he came to was that luminous rays were those which were efficient; but, as he used coloured glasses in his experiments, he wished to know if it had been established by other experiments that he and Professor Draper were in error.

Professor Williamson said they had a great number of rays, all of which acted, some on one compound and some on other compounds. It appeared to him that the great direction of future investigations should be to determine what it was they were speaking of when they spoke of chemical rays. He thought it might turn out that many luminous rays did produce definite chemical action.

On the Action of Hydrogen upon Organic Polycyanides. By Mr. Fairley.—This interesting paper contained the results of a further exploration of the field opened by Mentius some few years ago. The conversion of Cyanogen into Ethylenediamine was one of Mr. Fairley's results.

Section C.—GEOLOGY.

On a Bone Breccia with Flints in Lebanon. By the Rev. H. B. Tristram.—"Close to the Nahrel Kelb, on its southern side, a spur of the Lebanon pushes boldly into the sea, standing out a promontory several hundred feet high. Round its point, at about a hundred feet above the sea-level, the ancient conquerors of Syria, whether Assyrian or Egyptian, have long since hewn a military road. Above this the rock has been scarped for the inscription of those famous tablets which are known to every visitor to Beirut. On visiting the

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spot, close to the ancient Roman milestone, my attention was accidentally directed to what appeared to be a fragment of bone imbedded in the rock; and further examination, combined with unwearied use of the hammer, proved to us that the hard crystalline limestone was in this spot a complete mass of bone breccia, with fragments of flint mingled in the stalagmite. It seems probable that the stalagmite, of which not above twelve square yards remain, formed a portion of the flooring of an ancient cavern, the roof of which has probably been cut away, either to aid in the construction of the road, or to obtain a surface for the inscription of the tablets. The position of the breccia being several feet above the level of the roadway, it seemed probable that the floor of the cave had originally extended as far as the sea-face of the road. We therefore descended to the sea; and, amongst the heaps of rock, dashed by the waves and covered with fucus, we discovered several large fragments of breccia, corresponding exactly in composition with the mass above. Owing to the extreme hardness of the breccia, we were able at the time to secure only a few specimens of flint and several teeth, including probably those of two species of deer and an ox. But, with the kind assistance of Mr. Jessop, the American missionary, to whom I pointed out the locality, I was enabled afterwards to obtain a more extensive series of bones and flints. The latter consist almost entirely of elongated chips with very sharp edges; and I may remark that I am not aware of any natural deposit of silex within miles of this spot. Many of these chips are as dark as if they had been freshly broken from the matrix. One remarkable characteristic of this breccia is the extreme hardness of the crystalline limestone which forms it. It is possible that, under the conditions of Syrian climate, the breccia would crystallize more rapidly than in our northern regions. Yet, from the existence of the fragments in the sea below, we may conclude that, three thousand years ago, when Sesostris, or his Assyrian rivals, constructed their military road, the stone was as compact and crystalline as it is to-day, and that many ages must have intervened between the time of Shalmanezzer and the days when some rude savage fabricated his weapons on the soft floor of that cave. If, as Mr. Dawkins considers, some of the teeth are identical with those of our existing reindeer, we have the ancient range of that quadruped extended to a point more southerly than any previously ascertained."

Mr. Evans said that the flints which had been produced by Mr. Tristram were evidently worked by man.

On the Significance of the Sequence of Rocks and Fossils. By Harry Seeley, F.G.S.—Assuming as axioms that clays are the mud of rivers, that sandstones are the detritus of old crystalline rocks, and that limestones were organically or chemically formed, the author contrasted the Cretaceous and Jurassic rocks and the sequence of the beds they include, and, from the alternation of strata, deduced the alternations of upheaval of continents and the nature of the rocks presented for denudation. He then, by way of illustration, worked out the physical geography of the Cretaceous period, using as data the rocks of the eastern and northern counties; and, having considered the effects of these physical revolutions upon the fauna of the ocean floor, it was concluded that the operation of elevation and depression, in the ways pointed out, might have produced all the phenomena of existing life-provinces on land and by sea, and similar life-provinces in the seas of past time. It was then shown that the breaks between strata do not generally indicate denudation or breaks in time, but merely upheaval or depression of old lands, bringing into wear new rock-material and causing the immigration of a new province of marine life. Mr. Seeley concluded by saying, "I have now a few words to say on certain physical theories founded on fossils; for the writings of Sir Charles Lyell, Edward Forbes, and many others have endeavoured to demonstrate not only the depths of seas passed away, but the climate of lands around them, as though each shell or bone was a fossil thermometer. This, I venture to say, is a great fallacy. There are physical evidences of change of climate, but, in England at least, no palaeontological evidences that, taken alone, have the slightest value. Temperature is not an intelligent magnet drawing the life over the earth at pleasure; and, though the Gulf Stream has carried far north both plants and animals, it should not be forgotten that the Stream is the motor power. For, similarly, though the deep waters of the Mexican Gulf contain Arctic shells, it is the Stream from the north that brought them. Many genera are world-wide

in distribution; and the habits, the food, the climate of one species, are quite dissimilar from those of another. 'Every species is controlled by its own peculiar laws; and no acquaintance with one species of a genus, however extensive and accurate, warrants us in predicting concerning any other species, even though very striking resemblances may prevail; for the truths of zoology forbid us to reason concerning the species of a genus in the same manner as we do with the individuals of a species.' If one recent species cannot indicate the climate of another, least of all can rare and isolated recent species tell anything of extinct fossil forms, from which they are generally generically separated. The error seems to have been in supposing that species were created where they are found; and hence it seemed easier to imagine any physical revolution, however gratuitous, which should change the climate to fit the species, rather than believe that species could migrate. When land is depressed, animals spread over the new sea-bottom. Who need doubt, then, that, when land is upheaved, species migrate away? And, if the equatorial Atlantic Ocean bottom were raised up, the fauna would migrate north and south; and, if the elevation continued till southern Africa and America were one land, either the species would adapt themselves to their new circumstances, the weaker dying out, so that equatorial animals would abound off the Cape, or all would become extinct. There is no evidence of such total extinctions in former times, any more than there is of limitation of organic types to their present localities. On the contrary, the geological record abounds in evidences of migration. The northern fauna, which, during the glacial period, had its home far south and around our islands, has migrated away north; and there is no evidence that it was ever a northern fauna before. Coming north from the Mediterranean, there is similar evidence of a southern migration. No existing animals or plants are in their primitive latitudes. The elephant and hippopotamus may be claimed as having once had their natural home in England and the north, so that their present southern distribution would seem anomalous. The spice-island plants, the nautilus, crocodiles, turtles, and stromb shells are out of place in the tropics, for naturally they were denizens of the Thames. And there is no evidence that they were ever where found till they migrated from Europe. And, if certain mammals, fishes, plants, and shells which now are the marvels of the Oolites are found to have analogues still associated in the genial climate of the antipodes, we may be sure that they are not the relics of an Oolite fauna once universal; for Australia has dipped under the ocean often since then, entombing exuvia of another character. And we may be equally sure that, if they are the relics of that English host, the fauna of Stonesfield, they have only got to their present home by many wanderings, which have taken them over the equator and into climates unlike the one they left, and unlike that in which they are resting for a time. And, though in this and several other cases the evidence seems cumulative—though in tropical lands, rivers, and seas analogues of the Eocene flora and fauna occur somewhat associated—all that this implies is that the physical changes in which the period terminated caused their migration away in a body. But, when the text-books of Lyell, Phillips, and Owen freely inform us on the climate of geological ages—when Professor Houghton, assuming the climate, proceeds to calculate in years (as reported in THE READER) the world's age from the presence of a *Nautilus* in the London clay (!)—and when a leader in science like Professor Ramsay devotes two anniversary addresses to the Geological Society to calculating denudation of rocks which perhaps were not denuded and breaks in time which never existed, and from evidence which only the naturalist can judge of, I, as a biologist, must protest, however respectfully, that such are not the legitimate inferences from the sequence of rocks, and are not the true significance of fossils."

On the Pterodactyle as Evidence of a new Sub-class of Vertebrata (Saurornia). By Harry Seeley, F.G.S.—The author gave an account of the entire skeleton, the history, and classification of Pterodactyles. In the head he described from Upper Greensand examples the following bones: basi-occipital, basi-temporal, basi-sphenoid, ex-occipital, supra-occipital, parietal, alisphenoid, squamosal, petrosal, quadrate, quadrato-jugal, orbito-ethmo-sphenoid, the vomer, os-articulare, and proximal end of the lower jaw, and the pre-maxillary, maxillary, and dentary bones. The sutures were obliterated as in birds, the quadrate bone had the same double articulation with the

cranium as in birds, the squamosal bone was the same; and the conclusion from the sum of the bones was that, excepting the teeth, there is no character in the skull to distinguish the Pterodactyle from a bird. It is peculiar in that the basi-occipital neither enters into the foramen magnum nor the floor for the brain or the base of the skull. And the quadrate and quadrato-jugal are ankylosed, the later being squamous. The cranium approaches most nearly to that of the common Cock. The pectoral arch was described, the homology of the bones discussed, and the furcula shown to be attached to the radial processes of the humeri. The author went through the comparative osteology of the remainder of the skeleton, and showed that it supported the conclusion from the skull. The writings of Buckland, Owen, Huxley, Cuvier, Von Meyer, Goldfuss, Wagner, Quenstedt, &c., &c., were reviewed, and shown to contain nothing to support the hypothesis that Pterodactyles were reptiles. The *Saurornia* therefore were divided into three sections—Aves and Saurornia, and Reptilia—the *Saurornia* being birds with teeth, with peculiar wings, tarsus and metatarsus separate, and reptilian types of vertebrae, like the fossil birds *Palaeocolymbus* and *Pelagornis* of the Upper Greensand. Mr. Seeley then described as new species:—*Pterodactylus Huxleyi*, *P. macharorhynchus*, *P. Hopkinsi*, *P. Oweni*, *P. Carteri* (?), and completed the descriptions of Owen's species *P. Sedgwicki*, *P. Fittoni*, *P. Woodwardi*, *P. sinus*, and identified *P. Cuvieri*—thus adding six; so that now there are ten species from the Upper Greensand and one (*P. Cuvieri*) common to the Greensand and Chalk. In conclusion, he discussed the affinities of the known Pterodactyles with one another and their classification.

Section D.—ZOOLOGY AND BOTANY.

On the Natural History and Cultivation of the Oyster. By Mr. Frank Buckland.—The author traced the oyster's history from its birth, describing the mode in which the parent ejects the young in clouds like fine dust, and the perils and troubles to which the young are subjected during the few days they had to swim about and amuse themselves before they became permanently settled for life; for, when once fixed on an object, they were never able again to change quarters afterwards. Of the success of the oyster-culture in the Isle of Ré, he had brought over witnesses in the shape of tiles, stones, broken bits of pottery, and even glass, on which oysters had assembled themselves like grapes, in large bunches; and, in order that the locality might be understood, he exhibited a series of photographs. With regard to the failure of spat this year, which was so general that it extended even partially to the Isle of Ré, he stated that hitherto the attention of scientific men had not been directed to the point. The sudden death from unknown causes of whole banks of the pearl-bearing oysters of Ceylon—the consequence of which would be that the price of pearls would be enormously increased—was also alluded to. He concluded by stating that, in consultation with M. Coste and other French Government officials, he had submitted five principal causes of the failure of the young oysters in England and France. To these all had agreed; still there must be other causes as yet to be discovered.

Mr. H. S. Ellis stated that, from actual observations in the West of England, he had had opportunities of examining a number of oysters: he had found 80 per cent. of them in the month of August full of spawn, and even a few days ago he had found 20 per cent. still in spawn. He was afraid, however, that the spawn was wasted to a considerable extent. At Falmouth, at the present time, nearly 400 people were employed in the trade, and the oysters had increased very considerably in value; for, whereas a few years ago a tub was worth only 2s., it was now worth £1, and oysters were sent to, and laid down in, the beds at Whitstable and other places whence the London "natives" were supplied. Mr. Ellis said there were several rivers in Devon and Cornwall which were well adapted for oyster-culture, and that he believed the climate and the equable temperature of the sea were very much more favourable for breeding oysters than any rivers on the eastern coast of England. The Exe was an excellent river both for breeding and feeding oysters; and he (Mr. Ellis) had been engaged with others in experiments for preserving the spawn from destruction by laying down tiles on the oyster-beds, in the manner adopted in France, the result of which, they hoped, would be that they should, in another year, be able to show oysters in that dis-

trict both numerous and good; for the native oysters of the Exe were said to be as good as any taken from the Thames.

Mr. Spence Bate differed with Mr. Buckland as to their power of selecting their *habitat*.

Dr. P. Wright, in contradiction to Mr. Buckland's statement that the oysters had no eyes, said that, in the scallop oyster, he had found the eyes of a brilliant emerald colour.

On Salmon-Hatching and Salmon Ladders. By Mr. F. Buckland. — Whereas the oyster is stationary, and is treated in its cultivation more like a mineral than an animal, the salmon is literally a vagabond, always on the move, and never long together in the same place; and upon this fact depends its preservation and multiplication, in spite of the many difficulties it has to contend with—the greatest enemy being man. The conditions of a good salmon-fishery are three—(1) the sea, (2) a river, (3) mountainous or hilly country. From careful observation of geological causes, especially of the watersheds of rivers, the elevations of land, it might be determined whether a river was or was not suitable for salmon. We may fairly conclude that a Rhine salmon weighing twenty pounds has travelled in his journeys up and down the river no less than 6000 miles. He had tried last year to obtain a hybrid between a salmon and a trout. M. Coste had shown him, in Paris, several specimens of hybrids between salmon and trout, and also one between the trout and the "*ombre chevalier*," the latter being a most curiously striped fish. M. Coste had also shown fish hatched from the eggs of a salmon which had never been to the sea, having been confined all its life in a fresh-water pond, proving that, even though salmon do not thrive without going to the sea, still they will carry eggs capable of producing young. Upon the subject of salmon ladders Mr. Buckland was particularly earnest, pointing out that it was not only cruel, but exceedingly short-sighted policy not to assist the salmon to get up to the upper waters to lay their eggs: it was just the same as not putting a ladder to allow the hens to get up into their roosts. The millers complained greatly of salmon ladders, because they robbed them of the water wanted for the mill-power; but he exhibited and explained a model, a new kind of salmon ladder, invented by Mr. Brady, inspector of fisheries in Dublin, and lent by Mr. Ashworth, which was to obviate the difficulties complained of by the millers. He then explained other difficulties relative to the difficulty of finding a grating to prevent salmon swimming up mill-races and getting injured by the mill-wheels. Mr. Buckland concluded by stating that the investigation into the habits and improvement of salmon and oysters is no mere child's play, but, on the contrary, as we have frequently shown in THE READER, the very foundation-stone of a very large and important British industry, to which the experienced minds of scientific men have only to be directed in order to produce great and beneficial good to the public, and specially to the poorer classes of society.

Sub-Section D.—PHYSIOLOGY.

The Nutritive Elements in the Dietary of the Labouring Classes. By Dr. Smith, F.R.S.—"Farm-labourers obtained in England 13.2 oz.; in Wales and Anglesey, 15.8 oz.; in Scotland, 16 oz.; and, in Ireland, with the maize dietary, 14.1 oz.—yielding an average of 14.1 of carbon. The free hydrogen, when reckoned as carbon, makes the following additions:—England, .84 oz.; Wales and Anglesey, .89 oz.; Scotland, 1.09 oz.; and Ireland, 1.17 oz. Scotland thus stands at the head, and England at the foot; but a yet higher amount is found in the Anglesey dietaries—viz., 19.8 oz. Indoor operatives universally obtained a less amount of carbon. Even the well-fed cotton operatives, in times of plenty, obtained only 13.4 oz.—a quantity almost identical with that of English farm-labourers; but the stocking-weavers had 10.9 oz., shoemakers 10.3 oz., needlewomen 9.4 oz., kid-glovers 9.3 oz., and, least of all, silk-weavers 9.0 oz. Hence the farm-labourer occupies a much higher position in his dietary than has heretofore been assumed; a position also somewhat higher than the standard quantity which I estimated to be necessary, from experiments upon myself—viz., 12.5 oz. of carbon for the hard-working classes. Whilst the grand average in farm-labourers was nearly 15 oz. of carbon, that of three of the indoor labourers was 9.4 oz.; and the average of the whole was only 10 oz. As to nitrogen, the farm-labourer in England obtained daily 242 grains, in Wales and Anglesey 290 grains, in Scotland 335 grains, and in Ireland, with the maize dietary, 347 grains,

yielding a grand total of 300 grains daily. Anglesey again stood the highest of the large divisions of the kingdom, and offered 360 grains daily. There is a marked contrast between these returns and those of the indoor labourers, if we again except the well-fed cotton operatives, whose dietary furnished 249 grains daily—a quantity almost identical with that of the English labourer—for stocking weavers obtained only 188 grains, shoemakers 190 grains, kid-glovers 175 grains, silk-weavers 164 grains, and needlewomen 135 grains. Hence, whilst the average consumption by farm-labourers was 300 grains, that by indoor labourers was less than 200 grains; and thus, contrary to general belief, the inhabitants of country districts obtain more food than those of towns. Such is the statement of the food obtained by different classes of the community; some, doubtless, as a whole, and all containing many members which are ill-fed. It must, however, be added, that a subdivision of the class of farm-labourers—viz., those living at the farm-houses—obtain far more food than the above quantities represent, and are, doubtless, amongst the most fully-fed persons in the kingdom. In Yorkshire they eat 19½ lbs. of bread, 7½ lbs. of meat, 1 oz. of butter, 28 pints of new or skimmed milk, and 7 lbs. of vegetables weekly, besides fruit in summer, and beer at all times *ad libitum*. In Nottinghamshire the quantity of bread was the same; but that of meat was 7 lbs., of bacon 3½ lbs., of milk 6 pints, of good ale 7 pints, besides cheese, &c. The quantity of carbon and nitrogen in the former was 26½ oz. and 570 grains. There were also some farm-labourers living at their own homes who, in Ireland, ate 35 oz. of carbon and 645 grains of nitrogen; in Scotland, 27 oz. of carbon and 500 grains of nitrogen; and, in England, 23 oz. of carbon and 430 grains of nitrogen per adult daily. On the other hand, some of this class in England obtained only 6½ oz. of carbon and 125 grains of nitrogen. Extremes yet wider apart are found when both indoor and out-door labourers are considered together. Thus one needlewoman ate less than 4 oz. of carbon, and less than 100 grains of nitrogen, and many obtained less than 5 oz. of carbon and 120 grains of nitrogen daily. So widely apart are these numbers that the highest is nine times greater in carbon and twelve times greater in nitrogen than the least, and yet both alike are the daily food of an adult human being. The Lancashire operatives offer, however, the least exceptionable information as to the diverse quantities of food which the human body can take for lengthened periods, and yet remain in good health under both conditions. Thus, on the average of the whole inquiries, they obtained 13½ oz. of carbon and 250 grains of nitrogen daily, in good times; whilst lately the quantity was reduced to 9½ oz. and 185 grains. Even the same person ate at one time 20 oz. of carbon and 373 grains of nitrogen, and at another 11 oz. and 188 grains; and another one reduced her dietary from 14½ oz. to 6½ oz. of carbon, and from 233 grains to 108 grains of nitrogen. With such facts as these before us, how difficult it is to prove what food is really required, even by the classes from which they have been derived. We cannot assume that 35 oz. of carbon are necessary for a farm-labourer when others, placed in very similar circumstances, obtain only one-fifth of that quantity. Neither, on the other hand, are we entitled to affirm that the least quantity is sufficient, seeing an ordinary mode of estimating the health of a living man is not exact, and also seeing that such small quantities are but rarely found. The proper quantity lies somewhere between the two, and possibly where the average occurs; but, since men are not fed on the average, but as individuals, to assume that is almost to assume the whole argument. When different classes of persons are included in the inquiry, we may be prepared, from general knowledge, to find some difference in their wants; but can it be assumed with safety that because some needlewomen live on 4 or 5 oz. of carbon daily, and then keep in moderate health, that such an amount *only* is necessary? Inferences of this class are assumptions, and to make them is highly unscientific; but still, unsatisfactory as is this basis for the construction of dietaries, all exact scientific work must be tested by it."

On the Relative and Special Applications of Fat and Sugar as Respiratory Food. By Dr. T. Hayden.—The classification of food under the two heads of "calorificient," or heat-producing, and "nutritive," or tissue-forming, is now universally admitted by physiologists. The distinction is an important one, and founded upon the cycle of changes which carbonaceous and nitrogenous aliments respectively undergo in the construction, growth

and disintegration of animal bodies. Whilst, however, it is found that the nutrient or nitrogenous substances are all presented by nature's Great Author under the form of albumen, or the allied substances, gluten, caseine, or fibrine, and, in the complex process of digestion, after undergoing the preparatory change of conversion in the stomach, are directly received into the circulation; fat, under any of these various forms, never so enters, being transmitted through the lacteal system of vessels and glands, and, after admixture with the lymph, received into the general circulation, under the modified form of an emulsion. The salient points of contrast thus observable in the constitution of fat and sugar, as well as the remarkable divergence in the preliminary stages of their digestion, the preparatory processes to which they are respectively subjected, and the different channels by which they enter the circulation, must indicate some difference in the mode of their application to the great purpose for which they are both destined—the maintenance of animal heat. After describing some experiments, Dr. Hayden continued—"The conclusions at which I have arrived, however, from the observations I have been able to make up to the present may be stated as follows:—The amount of fat deposited in the body is regulated by the absolute and relative quantity of oleaginous and saccharine matter in the food taken; both substances taken in a large quantity cause excessive deposits of fat. If the fat taken be in defect, even though the sugar be in excess, no increase in the deposit of fat takes place, but rather a decrease, obviously in consequence of ordinary molecular absorption, to which the adipose, in common with other tissues, is subject, not being counterbalanced by assimilation. If the fat taken be in excess, whilst the sugar is insufficient to meet the immediate wants of the respiratory function, still the deposit of fat may not undergo increase, but the contrary, apparently because a portion of that already deposited must undergo reabsorption into the blood for the purpose of supplying heat. Fat is, therefore, as a heat-producing substance, only supplemental of sugar, which is the ordinary pabulum of respiration. Saliva, like gastric juice, is secreted in quantity strictly proportioned to the immediate wants of the system, and quite irrespectively of the absolute quantity of food taken; a certain proportion of the starch of the food, varying according to the quantity taken and the necessity of respiration, escapes the converting action of the saliva, and is stored up in the liver. This liver-starch is being taken constantly back into the blood to supplement the respiratory elements of the food, and in the blood is converted into sugar, probably next into lactic, and finally into carbonic acid. Hence the presence of sugar, normally, in small proportion, in the blood of the right side of the heart; hence, likewise, its presence in the right side of the heart of animals fed exclusively upon meat, in whose portal blood not a trace of sugar is discoverable."

Professor Rolleston thought that the importance of fat was altogether beyond question; most children would take any amount of sugar, but those who took fat would not profit the doctors. The queen-wasp, when intending to rear her young after the winter, was crammed full of fat; but the butterflies, who did their work wholly in the summer, had scarcely any. All insects, when they had hard work to do while running through their metamorphoses, were always well supplied with fat.

Section E.—GEOGRAPHY AND ETHNOLOGY.

On Fixity of Type. By the Rev. F. W. Farrar.—There was at one time a universal impression that the diversities of type and complexion observable in the human race might easily be accounted for from the effects of climate, custom, food, and manner of life. The opinion is now entirely abandoned by the majority of scientific men, but it is still firmly adhered to by thousands who content themselves with a *prima facie* view of the subject. The fact, however, appears to be that, as far as we can go back, the races of man under all zones have maintained, wherever we can trace their records, an absolute and unalterable fixity. On the oldest Egyptian monuments we find Jews, Arabs, Negroes, Egyptians, Assyrians, and Europeans depicted with a fidelity as to colour and feature hardly to be surpassed by a modern artist. There are modern Assyrians wandering about the ruins of Mosoul who might have stepped down bodily from the monuments of Nineveh. Any one who has travelled in Greece, or walked in the Trastevere at Rome, will have observed that the lineaments of many modern Greeks and Romans might have been copied directly from the

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physiognomy of their ancestors. But, it may be objected, this preservation of race characteristics is only what we should expect where the surrounding conditions remain unaltered; indeed, until recently even physiologists have believed that colour, for instance, is due solely or mainly to climate. A single glance at the map ought long ago to have explained a theory so demonstrably false, and to have established the fact that colour is often identical under opposite, and different under identical, conditions. Eastern Asia, from 70° of north latitude to the equator, offers every variety of temperature, and yet is peopled by one single type, the Mongolian, whose hue grows darker instead of lighter as you advance northwards; so that the Chinese of the tropics are much fairer than the Samoides or Tongous who live on the shores of the icy sea. In short, colour is distributed over the globe in patches—not in zones—a sufficient proof, if proof was wanted, that even colour, which seems to be the most easily altered of external peculiarities, is nevertheless wholly independent of climatic influences. But, as though to prove with additional force that races are endowed with an innate power of resistance against the effects of the external conditions, we are possessed of numerous instances which show that the characters of race are not materially, or even appreciably, affected by a change of physical agencies. Europeans transplanted from the temperate to the torrid zone do not, even in the course of generations, undergo any considerable modification of type. Three hundred years have elapsed since the Dutch settled in Southern Africa, yet we have the direct testimony of Dr. Andrew Smith that "their descendants at this moment are as fair as the fairest Europeans." The descendants of the Spaniards who emigrated to America 350 years ago do not differ in physical form from their brethren of Arragon or Andalusia. Don Ulloa says that the children of the Spaniards in Guayaquil have blonde hair, and are fairer than the Spanish children in Europe. The Portuguese who three centuries ago colonized Brazil, Zanguebar, and Mosambique are as truly Portuguese now as their ancestors were when they migrated from Europe. The French in Canada, the English, French, Danes, and Spaniards in the West Indies, the English, Dutch, and Chinese in Malacca, remain unaltered and perfectly distinguishable from each other and from the original inhabitants. For two centuries at least there have been negroes in all parts of America; and we are told by an eye-witness that "there are still many of the seventh and eighth generations whose depth and glossiness of colour would render them remarkable in the country of their ancestors." For the same period Danes and Norwegians settled in Greenland have not advanced a single step towards a resemblance of the Esquimaux. It may be objected that a period of two or three centuries is little or nothing in ethnographical matters. It is, at any rate, everything to those who, without miraculous interference, of which nothing is recorded, have not more than that period between the deluge and the date of the oldest Egyptian monuments in which to account for the appearance of the full-grown, well-marked Negritian type. But, independently of this, we find races widely differing from each other, but dwelling side by side, who, so far as we know, have from time immemorial been affected by precisely the same climatic and external influences. Such is the case with the Bosjesmen and the Kaffirs, the Fuegelians, the Patagonians, the Parsees, and Hindoos. Such, too, is remarkably the case with the Abyssinians, who differ so completely from negroes, though for unknown ages they have been living hemmed in on all sides by nations of the Negritian stamp. How then can it be denied that the specific characters of race are constant under the most diverse conditions, or that the longevity of type reaches back as far as human knowledge can penetrate, in spite of all changes in circumstance and locality? We believe that the opposite opinion has arisen in great measure from the supposed changes which animals and vegetables undergo when removed from one country to another; but, even if such changes were certain and important, we should have no right to infer the equal mutability of type in the human race; and, without here showing that the effect of such influence has been greatly exaggerated, we may quote the high authority of Mr. Darwin for the belief that, even in the case of animals, the changes thus produced are "extremely small." The argument could hardly fail to have some weight, even if we left it here; but there are three races which illustrate it so forcibly, and which have been known to exist for so many ages, that they deserve a few moments of separate consideration. These are the

Negroes, the Gipsies, and the Jews. The negroes are known to have existed some twenty-three or twenty-four centuries before Christ; some would assert that we have historic evidence of their existence even thirty or forty centuries before Christ. We find negroes not in Africa only, but in Kouenlun, in Assam, in Formosa, in Malacca, the Andamans, the Philippines, and many other regions. Under whatever climate they are placed, there is no material variation in the apparently indelible characteristics of their race; and no known set of conditions is capable of producing their colour, much less their conformation, in any historic period of years. And, if, in the space of 4000 years, we see in these races not the slightest tendency to change, what right have we to assume that, by natural causes, a change ever took place in them at all? It is hardly worth while, before a scientific assembly, to call to our aid the curse of Noah, respecting which the common argument seems to be that Ham and his descendants, who were *not* cursed, were slaves and negroes, because Canaan and his descendants, who never were negroes, or in the same sense slaves at all, *were* cursed! We may hope that the time is past when such logic could have been identified with orthodoxy in theological belief. Again, for some five centuries or more, the gipsies have wandered over and lived in all the countries of Europe, exposed to every variety of climate, tattered and houseless, yet retaining to the last the closest marks of their Asiatic origin. Still more remarkable is this the case with the Jews. For little short of 2000 years they have been a despised and often a roving community, in every region, from tropical heat to almost arctic cold; and yet, in spite of frequent intermarriages with people of other blood, the race continues, and has remained unalterably true to its well-known type. The supposed black Jews, of whom so much has been made, are, in point of fact, as fabulous as white Indians. On close examination, and on unimpeachable testimony, they turn out to be either non-existent in the localities mentioned, or people with but a slight admixture of Jewish blood, or else the descendants of proselytes, half-converted Arabs or Africans, not Jews at all. The real Jews, though they have adopted the costume, language, and manners of every people among whom they have dwelt, resemble each other all over the world, not only in lineaments, but also in conformation, temperament, and moral character. What the Jew was in Egypt perhaps 3000 years before Christ, that he is in Sweden and Poland nearly 2000 years after Christ. The vigorous caricatures which the Egyptian drew of him in the hypogeum of Thebes have lost none of their comic force, and might be reproduced at this day with perfect fidelity from many living members of the race. Such are a few facts respecting fixity of type in the human race; it remains for every one who is convinced of them to draw from them such inferences as appear to him to be most truthful and logical.

Section G.—MECHANICAL SCIENCE.

On some of the Strains of Ships. By Professor Rankine, F.R.S.—In previous scientific investigations respecting the strains which ships have to bear it has been usual to suppose the ship balanced on a point of rock, or supported at the ends on two rocks. The strains which would thus be produced are far more severe than any which have to be borne by a ship afloat. The author computes the most severe straining action which can act on a ship afloat—viz., that which takes place when she is supported amidships on a wave-crest and dry at the ends; and he finds that the bending action cannot exceed that due to the weight of the ship, with a leverage of .05 of her length, and that the rocking action cannot exceed .16 of her weight. Applying these results to two remarkably good examples of ships of 2680 tons displacement, one of iron and the other of wood, described by Mr. John Verner in a paper read at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in 1863, he finds the following values of the greatest stress of different kinds exerted on the materials of the ship:—

In the iron ship, tension ...	3.08 tons per square inch.
" " thrust ...	3.35 " "
" " racking stress ...	9.75 " "

It follows that, in the iron ship, the factor of safety against bending is between five and six, agreeing exactly with the best practice of engineers, and that there is a great surplus of strength against racking:—

In the wooden ship, tension ...	0.375 tons per square inch.
" " thrust ...	0.293 " "

Here the factors of safety are between ten and fifteen, which also agrees with good practice in carpentry.

On Steam Boilers. By Mr. Zerah Colburn.—The paper pointed out the causes of failure and bursting, and showed the value of cast-iron as a material for the purpose, and that small cast-iron spheres do not retain the solid matter deposited from the water. Small water tubes and small water spaces in ordinary boilers always choke with deposit when the feed-water contains lime; but cast-iron boiler *spheres*, although they may be temporarily coated internally with scale, are found to part with this whenever they are emptied of water. This fact is the most striking discovery that has been made in boiler engineering. It removes the fatal defect of small subdivided water spaces, which can now be employed with the certainty of their remaining constantly clear of deposit. Cast-iron boilers on this principle, invented by Mr. Harrison of Philadelphia, are now working in several of the midland and northern counties. Mr. Harrison employs any required number of cast-iron hollow spheres, eight inches in external diameter and three-eighths of an inch thick, communicating with each other through open necks and held together by external tie-bolts. A number of these spheres is arranged in the form of a rectangular slab, which is slanted to cause a complete circulation of the water, and several of these slabs, set side by side and connected together, form the boiler; about two-thirds of the whole number of spheres being filled with water, while the remainder serve as steam room. The bursting strength of these spheres corresponds to a pressure of upwards of 1500 lbs. per square inch, as verified by repeated experiment—between six and seven times greater than that of the ordinary Lancashire boilers of large size. The self-acting action, which has been found to be the same in all cases where the boiler has been worked, has been explained by conjecture. It deserves the careful investigation of the chemist and mechanical philosopher, with whom the author prefers to leave the subject.

On Lifeboats for Ships and Steamers. By Mr. G. B. Galloway.

On Improvements in Screw Propellers. By Mr. G. B. Galloway.

On Testing Cables. By Mr. R. A. Peacock.

SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

ON THE CONVERSION OF ACETIC ACID INTO BUTYRIC AND CAPROIC ACIDS.

Grantham, Oct. 15th.

IN your abstracts of the papers read at the British Association in to-day's READER an important paper of mine on the "Conversion of Acetic Acid into Butyric and Caproic Acids" is very summarily and unfairly dealt with. The account given of the paper is as follows:—"The author's method was to heat acetate of sodium with ethylate of sodium; and he expected that he should thereby get nascent ethylene to enter into combination with the acetate of sodium, and to produce butyric, caproic, and other [acids]. His experiments were very indecisive."

I think that, at the least, the name of the writer should have been added to this notice, in order that it might be known that it was in *his opinion* that my experiments were "very indecisive," and not in the opinion of the *chemists present* at the Chemical Section when I read the paper.

The notices published in THE READER are supposed to give a faithful account of the proceedings of the British Association; and I submit that it is not to be allowed that your reporter should substitute his own individual opinion of the merits of a paper for the expressed opinion of some of our most distinguished chemists. In the matter of individual opinion I should probably be disposed to value my own opinion of the validity of the conclusions to be drawn from experiment as highly as that of your reporter. That the Committee of Recommendations also did not consider my experiments "very indecisive" appears by their having requested me to continue my "researches and analyses of organic acids formed synthetically," and by their having placed a sum of £20 at my disposal for the purpose.

In justice to myself, therefore, I have to ask that you will allow me to state concisely what my experiments do incontestably prove, and what the points are upon which further experiments are necessary.

My experiments prove conclusively that, when a saturated solution of acetate of sodium in absolute alcohol is heated with sodium-alcohol for seventy hours, the sodium salts of two acids are produced having the molecular weights and characteristic properties of butyric and caproic acids.

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LEARNED SOCIETIES.

These are facts which admit of no dispute, and which I established by eight months' laborious work.

Unfortunately, several distinguished chemists were at another Section discussing the metric system when my paper was read; but Professors Odling, Anderson, and Dr. Noad, who were present, unhesitatingly admitted these results to be satisfactorily proved. For the details of my experiments I must refer to the *Chemical News*, where they will be shortly published *in extenso*. It must be observed that all acids which have the same molecular weight as butyric acid—i.e., 88—must have either the formulæ $C_4H_8O_4$ or $C_6H_8O_4$. Now it can be shown from what follows that the acids produced in the process must contain an equal number of atoms of carbon and hydrogen; hence the formula $C_6H_8O_4$ is inadmissible. The acid, therefore, which has the molecular weight and characteristic properties of butyric acid has also the formula $C_4H_8O_4$; it is, therefore, identical with butyric acid.

I should have been glad if the small quantity of the acid at my disposal had enabled me to make an organic analysis before the meeting of the British Association, in order to confirm the formula $C_4H_8O_4$; but it can be easily supplied by my future experiments. When I commenced my experiments I was under the impression that it was a fact generally known and admitted by chemists that sodium-alcohol decomposes at a temperature not much above $100^\circ C$. into ethylene and hydrate of sodium. Professor Wanklyn, however, at the Chemical Section denied that this decomposition takes place at all. I can only say that the fact is distinctly stated by Hofmann in his researches on the action of cyanurate of ethyl or sodium-alcohol; and he elsewhere states that his decomposition takes place at a low temperature. In order, therefore, to show that sodium-alcohol was, at the temperature employed during the reaction, $236^\circ-238^\circ F$. ($113.3^\circ-114.4^\circ C$.), decomposed in this manner, I was content with observing that an inflammable gas, not containing vapour of alcohol and burning like ethylene, with a bright white flame, was evolved during the reaction, and that caustic soda was produced in the retort.

Of this fact, therefore—viz., that sodium-alcohol did, at the temperature of the experiment, decompose into ethylene and caustic soda—there can also be no doubt; although I observed that it took place very slowly at this temperature. This being the case, two theories, and two theories only, can be advanced to account for the production of butyric and caproic acids in these experiments; and I am ready to allow that a difference of opinion may arise as to which of these theories is the correct one.

It may be supposed that the acetate of sodium takes no part in the reaction; in fact, that its only use in the process is to raise the boiling-point to the temperature of decomposition of the sodium-alcohol. On this view the ethylene, when in the nascent state, combines with the alcohol with the production of butyric and hexylic alcohols; and it must be supposed that these alcohols are connected with evolution of hydrogen into butyrate and caproate of sodium by the action of the caustic soda.

The other theory is that the butyrate and caproate of sodium are produced by the combination of acetate of sodium with nascent ethylene. This was the view which I took of the reaction in my paper before the British Association, and which was adopted by Dr. Anderson. But I did not deny that a small portion of butyrate, &c., might possibly be produced according to the first theory.

My belief is that the nascent ethylene combines both with the alcohol producing butyric and hexylic alcohols, and also with the acetate of sodium, producing butyrate and caproate of sodium.

It is important to observe, however, that, even if the combination with acetate of sodium does not take place at all, that with alcohol must; and it is quite as important to have converted ordinary alcohol into butyric and hexylic alcohols as to have converted acetate of sodium into butyrate and caproate of sodium.

In conclusion, then, I must remark that the only point on which my experiments are indecisive is as to whether only one (and, if so, which) or both of the processes referred to go on together.

My apology for trespassing on your space at this length is that I believe the method of synthesis given in my paper affords a solution of one of the most important problems of modern chemistry—viz., the conversion of any given term of a homologous series into any higher term.

ALFRED R. CATTON.

Numismatic Society, Oct. 20. W. S. W. Vaux, Esq., President, in the chair.—MR. DICKENSON exhibited a coin of Henry VIII. with the numerals VII.

Mr. Evans read a letter from the Rev. J. Marsden relative to a find of coins at Ipswich.

Mr. Evans read a paper by himself "On a Counterfeit Groat of Henry VIII."

Mr. Williams read a paper "On an Example of Chinese Paper-currency of the Ming Dynasty," being, from the evidence he adduced, the earliest paper-currency of which we have any record (1368—1398).

Mr. Madden read a paper by himself "On a Collection of Roman Gold Coins presented by Edward Wigan, Esq., to the Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum," in which he pointed out the value and importance of the gift, no donation of a similar kind, except that of Mr. de Salis in 1859, having ever been made to the Museum during the lifetime of the donor. Out of the 291 coins selected for the Museum there are no less than 59 only existing in this collection, including some of the greatest rarities of the Roman series. The total value of the collection, as given by M. Cohen in his work on Roman coins, amounts to 79,924 francs, or about £4000; but there is not much doubt that many of the specimens are undervalued.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1st.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL, at 8.—4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square. "On the Anthropological Papers read at Bath," C. Carter Blake. "On a Visit to Dahome," Captain R. F. Burton.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd.

LINNEAN, at 8.—Burlington House. "On Some Orchids of the South of France," Mr. Moggridge. "On *Leptolobium*," Mr. Benthams.

CHEMICAL, at 8.—Burlington House. "Isolation of Electro-Negative Radicle Valeryl," Prof. Wanklyn. "Existence of Nitrogen in Steel," Messrs. Graham, Stuart, and Baker. "Concentration of Nickel in Lead by Pattinson's Process," Mr. W. Baker. "Effect of Ignition on Garnets, &c.," and "Colouring Matter of Certain Rocks," Prof. Church.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4th.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, at 4.—1, Burlington Gardens.

ART.

PESTS OF THE STUDIO.

THERE are few professions—we doubt if there be any—so well calculated to secure the happiness of those who faithfully prosecute it as that of painting. The true painter follows a never-ending path, wherein he finds new vistas of beauty and perfection opening to his sight, while he gathers strength by the way-side to overcome the difficulties and to unravel the mysteries of the enchanted way. The inducements to follow this profession are not from without. It holds out no great prizes either of distinction or wealth: these are almost monopolized by soldiers, barristers, and physicians. The highest rewards the nation can bestow are given without grudging to its successful soldiers; and the money-incomes within reach of the legal and medical professions far exceed in amount the largest that can be secured by the most successful votaries of art. But, in the first profession, leisure is a drug destroying the inner life of its followers: in the two latter it is so restricted that the rational enjoyment of life, while life is valuable, is impossible, and it only comes at last when body and mind alike have lost the power of appreciating its worth.

The pursuit of art, on the contrary, is not only consistent with a healthful amount of leisure, but it is only likely to be successful when the mental and bodily powers are exercised with a moderation that precludes violent and long-sustained effort. The ordinary painter's working day averages eight hours; his work is, for the most part, delightful; and the element of progress by which it is particularly characterized is a wonderful lightener of labour. He seldom becomes a rich man; but he generally earns an income competent for his wants, unless he has altogether mistaken his calling. As compared with the other professions, his leisure is more under his own control and his responsibilities are fewer. It would seem as if, of all men, he might be the most happy; and so, perhaps, he would be but for the minor annoyances which his known command of leisure subjects him to from every quarter within and without.

His time is supposed to be all leisure time, and it is always apt to be intruded upon not only by strangers, but by his own friends and, of course, by his own family. A friend drops in to see what he is doing, and just takes a pipe while he exercises

the office of critic; the painter, of course, puts down his palette, and prepares to suffer a most painful interruption with the best grace he can assume. His friend's criticism (which is probably of no value) being concluded, the artist again takes up his palette, when Betty appears at the door, with a message from Mistress about the coals, or the gardener, or Master Tommy's wheelbarrow, "which the leg has come off, and Missus thinks as Master might like to put it on again." As he probably loves to play with his child, and to indulge his taste for carpentry, he goes off to attend to the dilapidated barrow. From this occupation he is perhaps summoned by the arrival of some amateurs who have heard so much of his studio, and who are certain to detain him for an hour with conversation utterly barren to him of any advantage. Artists whose time is too valuable to be sacrificed to the demands made upon their leisure are, of course, obliged to take precautions against the interruptions by which, more than any other class of studious men, they are likely to be assailed. We have heard of one painter who lost an old friend by assuring him, during a morning visit, and in reply to an earnest inquiry as to the cause of the scowl which had taken possession of his countenance, that he had come to the conclusion that it was a mistake to have too many friends. But it is doubtless very difficult for any painter who is before the public thoroughly to husband his time: small interruptions beset him from day to day, and he can only escape from them by the exercise of a strong will, and at the risk of being pronounced uncourteous or rude, or by secluding himself altogether. The practice of his profession, unless he be a portrait-painter or a teacher, is comparatively independent of the needs and convenience of others, so that he can carry his work where he will, and submit the result of it, in his own good time, to public view. But there is a certain class of interruptions from which he can hardly escape, go where he will. These arise from the visits of those who may be called the pests of the studio. They include every form of begging and imposture—decayed models, artists' widows, hawkers of painting materials, and every conceivable form of destitution incident to unappreciated talent—the representatives of which infallibly find him out in his den, well knowing that, in the simplicity of his heart, he will buy or bribe them off, rather than sacrifice his time to the investigation of their tales of distress, or refuse to act up to the sentiments of pity and justice which they feel sure he possesses. *Fidneurs* of the press, who call upon him with a view to make up a paragraph concerning his forthcoming pictures, are even more objectionable; but, of all studio parasites, the most objectionable is the art-critic of some unknown periodical, who forces himself into his presence, and endeavours to bargain with him for a notice of his works, by demanding in return his subscription to some trumpery publication of his own. The presence of this person is usually announced during the best hours of daylight; the unsuspecting painter makes the acquaintance, for the first time, of a low-bred, jaunty-mannered individual, who meets him with an exclamation of recognition; and a conversation, almost in the following words, describes the object of his "visit":—"Ha! surely I have seen you before? No! well, then, you have probably seen or heard of me, as I am so much before the world as a public lecturer. Not heard of my lectures? Well, that is strange; and some of the most important I have delivered are on the subject of art, too. I have given the most earnest and special attention to the subject, and have traced the history of art from the time of the Greeks downwards. Thousands of subscribers; and, as an artist, my dear sir, the volume—here it is, by-the-bye, one of twelve which I am bringing out under the sanction of the late Prince Consort—will be a mine of wealth to you; and the subscription to the series is really too trifling to be talked about. However, that is not my immediate object in calling. The fact is, I write the art-notice for the *Comic Roundabout*. Come, let us see what you are about." Here the art-critic takes out a pencil and note-book. "Now then." "But," says the artist, taken all aback by his impudence, "I really am quite indifferent—" "Tut, my dear fellow, it is but a *quid pro quo*: you serve me, I serve you: mutual obligation. The complete work only costs £3. 10s., and—" "But," replies the painter, "I have no money to spare at present, and—" "But I don't want the money: pay for it when you like. I'll send you the first three volumes at once." "I most earnestly beg, sir, that you will do nothing of the kind. I am not prepared—" "Why, my good

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fellow, what's a pound?" and then, winking, "Why, the notice'll be worth more than a pound, and I'll cook you up a good one, depend upon that." "Most distinctly, sir, I protest against this—" "Well, then, don't say another word. I'll leave the books, and you can look them over; and, in the meantime, I will send you a copy of the notice." "No, sir," roars the painter; "I neither want your notices nor your books; and I must beg that you will instantly—" "Well, well, I am really surprised, sir! I entered this room with some respect for your abilities, and in the hope, I confess, that we might be of mutual assistance to one another. I little thought that, for the sake of a pound or two, you would have been so short-sighted as to decline a work like this; but, remember—"and this he utters in confidence as he goes out—"if, on afterthought, you determine to take in the work, the notice of your work will appear in the *Roundabout* and be copied into the other papers. Good morning, sir." And so, after wasting half-an-hour of precious daylight, and leaving the painter in a state of self-abasement at having omitted to kick him down-stairs, this offensive creature takes his departure. In many cases, however, he succeeds, through the indolence of the painter he addresses, in leaving his books; and, in this case, he either insists upon their being purchased or indites a most insulting letter, setting forth the artist's conduct in the matter as an instance of meanness and ingratitude unparalleled in the whole course of his experience. The impunity with which this class of critic has hitherto been received is entirely owing to the novelty of his address. He is now becoming too well known, under the above form of attack, to do much damage; but he is certain to reappear under some other form to torment unfortunate painters. Another type of the birds of prey, well known to artists, is represented by a respectable-looking old gentleman, who more particularly affects the studies of portrait-painters. He introduces himself to the artist in the frank, business-like manner of a man whose time is valuable, and he affects a like regard for that of the gentleman to whom he addresses himself. He usually calls after City hours, and he shortly states the object of his visit, which is to commission the artist to paint a posthumous portrait of some distinguished man lately deceased. "My name is Smith, sir, and I have already made your acquaintance in the way by which I should always wish to make an artist's acquaintance—that is, from a canvas. I have seen such-and-such a picture by you, and I am disposed to think from that specimen of your abilities that you are the fittest man to undertake the very important work which I am about to propose for your execution." The unsuspecting artist bows to the compliment. "Well, sir," continues his visitor, "I am a man of few words. I may say, perhaps, that I have always been fond of the arts, and, when a young man, it was my most earnest ambition to be in some way connected with them. But that is all past; and I am now well known as Smith of the City and the Regent's Park, and I get my living by my hogsheads of claret and sherry. That, however, is neither here nor there; the object of my present visit to you is to inform you that a committee has been formed of influential gentlemen and friends of the late Captain S—, with a view to raising some suitable memorial to the talents and virtue of that lamented officer. I have been deputed to ascertain whether, from such materials as exist, a full-length, life-sized portrait could be produced. I should tell you that a cast of the head has been preserved, and that there are sundry photographs also at your service. Now the question shortly is, Can such a work be produced with these materials at your command? I must tell you that the picture will be engraved. And now I come to my part of the business. I have already told you of my love for art; and, in the production of the engraving, I mean to have a finger. You will please to reserve the copyright in the picture, as I wish you to insist that it shall be engraved in the highest style by Mr. Cousins; in fact, some control over the production of the engraving is all I ask for as my share for the trouble of arranging this business." The unwarned painter, who sees before him a *bond fide* commission, and an opportunity of earning distinction, expresses himself in a few words as ready to undertake the work, and names his price. "Well, then, sir, we may consider the matter as settled; and, within a week, not less, I shall bring to your studio two gentlemen who will enter into a contract with you to paint the picture. And now, sir, having so far concluded our present business, I may tell you that your highly respectable family is well known to me. I married Miss

B., daughter of an old friend of your father's, and, when you were a boy, there was considerable intimacy between the families; but those days are past. Death, and the various vicissitudes of life, have separated us; but I have ever retained a lively recollection of those old times; and, when Sir J. J., whom I hope shortly to introduce to you in reference to this picture, mentioned your name, I was happy to be able to speak in the highest terms of the family to which you belong. By-the-bye, I met an old friend leaving you as I entered—Mr. H.; he knows me well, and will afford you a link to connect those days with these. Strange that we should never have met in his company!" Thus thrown completely off his guard, the painter is unprepared to discover at the moment the real object of this man's visit, and falls an easy victim to him at the very moment of his departure. "By-the-bye, are you easily frightened?" "Not very," replies the artist. "Well, it is really rather absurd, but I called at Sir Claude Scott's bank just now to get a cheque cashed, and, it being just after four o'clock, they declined to do it. Have you a sovereign handy? I will leave it for you to-morrow morning as I pass to the City; but don't be frightened," with a smile, "and pray don't expose me to H., or I shall be in sad disgrace." Taken aback, the painter is readily victimized; and the old gentleman continues to repeat, as he slowly descends the stairs, "Well, then, within a week, not less, I shall bring two gentlemen," &c. A moment's reflection convinces the painter that he has been done. He seeks his friend H., who, in reply to his question whether he knows anything of Smith, says: "Know him! why he is one of the biggest scoundrels and swindlers living. I saw him going into your studio, and would have warned you if I could have got an opportunity of doing so." But Smith, too, will have to alter his story, as his visits are likely to become notorious.

THE WALL-PAINTINGS IN WESTMINSTER PALACE.

THE following letter in reference to the wall-paintings at Westminster has been addressed to the Editor of the *Times* :—

"Sir,—I have recently read a little pamphlet bearing the signature of 'A Silent Member,' and professing to be a reply to the Report of the Commission appointed by her Majesty the Queen to deliberate on the subject of 'Agreements made by the Fine Arts Commission with artists in respect to wall-paintings for the Palace of Westminster.'

"It would be the merest affectation in me to say that I am displeased with the general bias of this brochure in my favour, and I readily bear witness to the truth of the statements it makes, most of which, as the writer asserts, can be guaranteed from various sources. I may even say that I very gladly and gratefully acknowledge this 'Silent Member' as a much-needed interpreter of my poor aspirations and intentions, because I felt unwilling to obtrude any topic relating even remotely to myself on that restricted circle of art society which might fairly be supposed not altogether indifferent to the case.

"I confess I did not care to parade myself as either 'the man with a grievance,' or in that other character, 'the disappointed man.' I neither wished to become bewailed by the 'paragraphists' of the press, as I have heard them termed, nor find myself befuddled to some airy region by the too partial breathings of literary *pifferari*. This reticence of mine has not, however, been much estimated, and I have by some friends been so constantly advised to 'assert myself,' while by others (although uncomplaining) I have so frequently been assured that I ought to feel much aggrieved, that I am not sure whether a few more provocatives in the shape of counsel might not have disturbed me into a 'statement' if the enthusiasm of 'A Silent Member' had not forestalled me and spoken.

"I might easily have given the writer who so generously sides with art and its interests, and so much too partially with me, various kinds of information with respect to my colleagues greatly to their honour, and in so doing might have furnished him with a theme more worthy of his zealous advocacy than any poor pretensions of mine can be supposed to possess; but I may be permitted to refer with some complacency to the spirit in which I have always endeavoured to act when accepting these employments, and I cannot but think I ought to have been made exempt from the rebuke in the last paragraph of the late Commissioners' Report, and the stigma that may be supposed to attach to their recommendation that

the very work which his late Royal Highness the Prince Consort did me the honour to request me not to decline should now be abandoned, and its agreement cancelled.—I have the honour to remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
"Oct. 21." "DANIEL MACLISE."

ART NOTES.

MR. WALTER has just lent his fine collection of Dutch pictures to the South Kensington Museum, where they will remain on view during the rebuilding of Mr. Walter's mansion.

LORD TAUNTON has presented his celebrated picture of the Annunciation, by Carlo Crivelli, signed and dated 1481, to the National Gallery, which will be reopened to the public early next month. The Gallery has also been enriched by the following additions:—A portrait of Christoforo Longono, a Milanese nobleman, by Andrea da Solaro, dated 1505; "St. Rock with the Angel," by P. Morando, dated 1518; and a portrait of a Venetian Senator, by Bonsignori, dated 1487.

THE winter exhibition of paintings in the French Gallery will be opened to private view to-day. The public will be admitted on Monday.

MUSIC.

MUSICAL NOTES.

THE English Opera Company has been playing, during the past week, "Masaniello" and "Martha." The production of Mr. Macfarren's "Hervellyn" is announced for Tuesday evening next week, and is looked forward to with much interest.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE has been open this week for a short series of opera performances, in which Mdle. Titiens and Signor Gardoni have taken the principal parts. "Faust" and other popular operas have been given, and "Fidelio" is announced.

AT the Crystal Palace Concert of this day the Second Symphony of M. Gounod is to be played for the first time in England. Those who have enjoyed former series of these very enjoyable concerts will be glad to know that the only deficiency of Mr. Manns's admirable band has been to a great extent remedied this season by an increase in the number of the "strings." This much-desired improvement should make the Saturday performances perfect.

THE new Opera di Camera at the Gallery of Illustration is a great success. The music is by Mr. Macfarren, and the *libretto* by Mr. Oxenford.

MDLE. ADELINA PATTI has achieved a signal success in "Don Pasquale" at the Théâtre Italien. Her reception as *Violetta* in "La Traviata" is spoken of by the press as most enthusiastic.

A CURIOUS innovation on the ordinary performances of opera has taken place at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie at Brussels. Madame Lichtmay, the prima donna of the late German Opera in that city, has been retained, and appeared as *Leonore* in the opera of "Le Trouvère." The whole of her rôle she gave in German, all the other parts being sung in French; the performance being, nevertheless, quite successful.

M. P. SCUDO, the well-known musical critic of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* and of the *Art Musical*, has died in Paris.

M. PONCE DE LÉON, the musical composer and pianoforte-player, has been decorated with the order of Isabella the Catholic.

M. GASSIER, the well-known baritone, has been engaged for the Madrid Opera.

MR. HALLÉ has been performing with great success in Leipsic. He gave, before he left, a concert similar to one of his London pianoforte recitals, his playing at which was greeted with unanimous applause.

PROFESSOR PEPPER is giving a lecture every day and evening at the Polytechnic on "Sound and Acoustic Illusions," in which he shows some very interesting experiments wherein vibrations and combinations of vibrations are manifested to the eye in the form of lines of light on a white screen. He also exhibits the more familiar experiments of the curves formed by sand sprinkled on vibrating plates, and which are not only very beautiful to see, but very useful as illustrating the fundamental characteristics of the musical scale.

AT a sale by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, announced for next month, several copyrights of compositions by Dr. Sterndale Bennett are to be put up to auction. Among them are the "May Queen" and the "Exhibition Ode."

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A THEMATIC analysis of Mr. Smart's new cantata, "The Bride of Dunkerron," appears in the *Orchestra* of the 15th inst. We have before called attention to this very useful feature of that paper. If the plan is continued, the volumes of the *Orchestra* will, in time, include a most valuable catalogue raisonnée of all the most noticeable musical works of the day.

At the Vienna Festival in Meyerbeer's honour the "Huguenots" was performed, with Herr Wachtel in the part of Raoul. It is said that this was the first occasion on which a full performance of the opera in its proper form has been permitted, the Ecclesiastical censorship having hitherto obliged managers to play it in a transmuted shape as "Guelphs and Ghibellines." It is only since Naples has been de-Bourbonized that the piece has been heard there. At Rome a version is about to be introduced under the disguise of "Renato de Grünwald," adapted to a Dutch story. Notwithstanding all this manœuvring as to its stage production, one sees the ordinary French editions of the music in the shop-windows.

A MONSTER choral festival is to be held at Dresden in July of next year. It is to last four days and a half, and to gather together 10,000 singers. They are to be "conducted" by means of electrical apparatus. The expenses will, it is expected, reach some £14,000, it being necessary to build a vast hall calculated to hold 30,000 people.

MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

OCTOBER 31st to NOVEMBER 5th.

WEDNESDAY.—Polyhymnian Choir Concert, Hanover Square Rooms, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY.—Crystal Palace Orchestral Concert, 3 p.m.

OPERAS:—

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE (English).—Thursday, "Hervellyn."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Italian).—To-night, "Fidelio."

THE DRAMA.

LYCEUM THEATRE—"THE KING'S BUTTERFLY."

M. FECHTER, if he has not, in the most comprehensive sense of the word, made himself popular, has achieved a great social success amongst us. The higher classes—or at least that portion of them which would have been formerly termed the *beau monde*—have sincerely taken to him. They like his airy manners; they award him the praise of a chivalric style. In "Ruy Blas" they said his passionate love-making was perfection; in "Hamlet" his deep melancholy touched them; and, in the "Duke's Motto" and "Bel Demonio," they considered him the very perfection of modern heroism. Sterner criticism, modelling itself on revered examples and high principles of art, might object to many things; but the ladies answered, as the fop in Congreve's comedy did of Hercules, "Never mind; he is a very pretty fellow." In fact, taste and good manners, in this as in many other cases, triumphed over all objections of language and foreign action, and even over some stern canons of criticism.

Thus encouraged, M. Fechter bravely perseveres in his endeavour to establish amongst us a complete Parisian playhouse; and to this end has converted the stage of the Lyceum into one of the most perfect of the Boulevard theatres. The kind of drama M. Fechter has chosen to naturalize in London scarcely seems to us the best the Parisian stage affords. The events of everyday life, as exemplified in a number of admirable French comedies, have been portrayed with the utmost dramatic skill, and the merits of some of the highest French stage artists well deserve the European reputation they have attained. The French stand unrivalled in their skill in delineating with pregnant art the endless phases and combinations of society. Their language and their kind of civilization enable them to do this to perfection. We have always hailed with pleasure the adaptation of these charming pieces to our stage, and shall continue to do so until we have dramatists of our own who can draw equally well from the life.

It is not, however, this kind of French drama that M. Fechter brings to us. He has—probably from a desire of enlarging his sphere of operations—gone to a second-rate class, which he deems more likely to please a large and mixed audience, and has imported the mixed melodramas of the Porte St. Martin and the other Boulevard theatres. Constant action and elaborate scenery are the main attractions of these pieces, and they can hardly be said to rank higher in intrinsic merit than the pieces known to us as Surrey melodramas, or at all

events as Adelphi plays, though the extreme cost and care lavished upon their production give them a more elevated appearance. The "Duke's Motto" and "Bel Demonio" were both of this kind; and the new piece produced last Saturday must be placed in the same category. It is entitled "Fanfan; or, the King's Butterfly," and is in five scenes or acts, an elaborate tableau being built up for each. The French original was named "Fanfan la Tulipe," Fanfan being the name of a brave chasseur—or dragoon, as we should say—and the affix indicating that he was the very flower or pink of perfection in his vocation. In fact, the character, as conceived by the original author, Paul de Meurice, was an embodiment of the darling idea of a French audience, and was a kind of symbolism of that passionate admiration of soldiery and glory which animates the Gaul. Fanfan is a Murat of the ranks, a very incarnation of the bayonet, and the beau-ideal representative of the Grand Army. He is, in fact, to the French audiences, very much what William in "Black-eyed Susan" is to English audiences; and the different popularity of the two services in the two countries may account for the hero in the one case being a sailor and in the other a soldier.

We cannot think the choice of such a piece judicious, for the very clap-trap that would recommend it in the one country must disparage it in the other. We echo the sentiments of William when he eulogizes his tight little craft and addresses the ocean as his beloved, because we sympathize with all that is nautical; but, when Fanfan makes a bosom friend of his charger, and speaks with rapture of his forays, we have no corresponding sensibility. We expect our stage tar to spend his prize-money in acts of wanton generosity, to kiss the girls, and to dance a hornpipe; but the escapades of a burly dragoon do not obtain favour with us; and all respectable households wish to get away as far as possible from the barracks. For these reasons Fanfan has to stand entirely on his own merits in the drama, and the author, or authors (English as well as French) have done so little for him *per se* that he really creates no great effect. He possesses, indeed, some unusual melodramatic advantages, and makes his first entrance on a very gallant charger, which is so well trained that he deserved a call at the end of the act quite as much as his human fellow-actors. Fanfan is the only character (except the horse) about whom any interest is felt, all the rest being mere puppets, created to administer to his glorification and to procure for him a series of prominent situations.

The five elaborate and exquisitely got-up tableaux which form the drama also form frames for Fanfan's proceedings. The first shows us his native Norman village, with a beautiful autumn effect, full of artistic power. Here the gallant *sabreur* redeems his aged grandmother from the fangs of the tax-gatherer by selling himself again to a recruiting-sergeant, the comic villain of the piece. Having kissed all the girls of the village, and joined in a village *fête*—very elaborately got up—he departs with a young friend, who, like himself, is a foundling, to Paris. Here we have the interior of an ancient house, admirably built up. This is the residence of a popular fortune-teller; and hither comes Madame de Pompadour, who, being discovered by a Parisian mob, is hooted by them. Fanfan rescues her and brings her back, and, not knowing who she is, enters into a little soldierly badinage; and his genuine admiration flatters the great court beauty into a kind of reciprocal attachment, and an ultimate promise of patronage. This is, perhaps, the best scene in the play, as far as regards dialogue and acting.

In the third act the plot, such as it is, thickens, and we find a French duke and a Portuguese baron plotting to acquire two separate results—namely, the downfall of Madame de Pompadour, and the substitution of a feigned heir to a dormant marquisate and a magnificent fortune. The wicked baron selects Fanfan as the false heir, and the wicked duke brings up a country beauty, who is the affianced of Fanfan's friend, to seduce the king from the reigning Madame. Fanfan receives the information of his being a marquis and the heir to a large estate with much *sang-froid*; but, when he overhears that it is intended to send him to the army and put him in such dangerous positions that he must be killed, he determines to go through with his part, though he has discovered that his friend is the real heir. Madame de Pompadour becomes a party in the intrigue, and, in her self-defence, promotes the marriage of the country beauty with Fanfan's friend. In order to carry out his preservation of his friend, he, as the marquis, determines to marry

his friend's mistress; and thus he falls under the bitter reproaches of his friend and the indignant anger of Madame de Pompadour. The third act is carried on in one of the salons of Versailles; and a very beautiful effect is created by admitting the morning sun on the opening of the shutters, the light streaming in with marvellous beauty.

The fourth act or scene is the exterior of Versailles, in which a *bal pastoral* is introduced, and in which all the fantastic beauty of Dresden-china shepherds and shepherdesses is introduced. The fifth and last act shows us the French army, under Marshal Saxe, encamped near the famous mill of Loefeldt. Here we find Fanfan in great request, having saved the general's life and discovered that the wicked baron is selling information to the enemy. Madame de Pompadour and the king are with the army, and the baron is discovered plotting that they shall both be blown up in the mill. The treachery of his agent, the comic recruiting-sergeant, betrays the baron, who is convicted of treason. Madame de Pompadour and the king are saved; Fanfan is pronounced a military hero; and his friend is proclaimed heir to the marquisate and marries his beloved. So many of these incidents are evidently invented for stage purposes that they have no true dramatic interest, although, at the end of the last act, there is a little melodramatic effect created by the rescue of Madame de Pompadour's reputation, it being one of the objects of her foes to fix on her the scandal of an intrigue with Fanfan. The scenery, as we have said, is of the most picturesque kind, and does Mr. William Calcott infinite credit both for its artistic merit and laborious fidelity to nature. The dresses and all the appointments are excellent, and the acting, as far as the utter inanity of all the parts would admit, was sufficiently good. Mr. Charles, Mr. Ryder, and Mr. McIntyre were painstaking in the extreme, Mr. Widdicombe comically wicked, and Miss Carlotta Leclercq elegant and pleasing as the reigning favourite. As a drama, "The King's Butterfly" is weak and inane, and, shorn of its accessories, it would not keep the audience in their places till its conclusion. Supported, as it is, by ingenious dioramic effects and by the very perfection of scene-painting and stage appointments, it will probably draw many to see it—at least once. If we are to speak of M. Fechter's acting, we must say the piece gives him the least opportunity of displaying his genuine histrionic talents of any of the parts he has yet appeared in here. Placing his representation of the French ideal soldier against our stage ideal of the sailor, as played by T. P. Cooke, we must think, making every allowance for national prejudices, that the odds are very greatly in favour of the English representative.

F. G. T.

M. COUPART, formerly a dramatic author of some note in Paris, and more recently the manager of the Théâtre du Palais Royal, has just died at the age of eighty-eight years.

"LES Drames du Cabaret" has been produced at the Théâtre du Porte Saint-Martin. It is a highly-spiced melodrama in five acts and ten tableaux, and is by MM. Dumanoir and Dennery. The moral it enforces, as may be supposed from its title, is the evil of drunkenness.

A NEW play by M. Victor Séjour, author of "La Tireuse de Cartes," has been produced at the Gaieté. It is in five acts and seven tableaux, and is called "Le Marquis Caporal."

M. VICTOR SARDON, author of the recently-produced play of "Don Quixote," has dramatized a story by Charles de Bernard, and brought it out at the Théâtre du Palais-Royal with the title "Les Pommes du Voisin."

"LA Reine Topaze" has been performed with brilliant success at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie at Brussels, M. Jordan and Madame Mayer playing the principal characters.

"LA Jeunesse de Mirabeau," by MM. Aylie Langlé and Raymond Deslandes, is in rehearsal at the Théâtre du Vaudeville.

THE late law in France giving liberty to the theatres abolishes some privileges previously possessed by the Comédie Française. The result of a late trial has proved that the managers of the theatres have no longer the powers conferred on them by the decree of Moscow of withdrawing any actor from a Parisian or provincial theatre without themselves paying, or without rendering the actor liable for, any indemnity for deprivation of service.

MADAME RISTORI has been playing with great success at Alexandria. From thence she proceeds to Smyrna, and afterwards to Constantinople, and will return to Paris in February.

MADAME CHARLOTTE DREYFUS is at present fulfilling a round of engagements in Spain.

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